

streetlight,"

"Big deal," said Wax Wing.

"I'm trying to get him a new light, but I nearly melted trying to get that big yellow one up there on that tree."

"Ha," laughed Wax Wing, "you can't take those lights, they belong to Santa Claus."

"Oh, no," Sunnie thought, "what now! Who's Santa Claus?"

"Who's Santa Claus," Wax Wing mimicked with a snort.

"He lives at the northpole and makes toys at Christmas time. It's his way of celebrating Christmas."

"If I asked him, maybe he'd give my friend a new lightbulb," Sunnie pondered.

"Well, you'll have to go to the North Pole if you want to ask him," Wax Wing advised. "He's very busy, it is almost Christmas you know."

"I guess I'll have to catch another ride," Sunnie groaned.

The northwind came whistling by and Sunnie told about the trip she wanted to make. "The North Pole!" shrieked the northwind. "Are you out of your mind?"

Sunnie explained about the Christmas tree lights that belonged to Santa Claus. "It's the only chance there is," Sunnie sniffled.

"Well, if it's all that important, I suppose I could manage it, but this is the last time!"

So the northwind and Sunnie were off to the northpole. Along the way Sunnie noticed her coat getting thicker and thicker the colder it got. Soon the wind began to get really fierce, tossing Sunnie this way and that.

"Northwind, take it easy," she yelled. "I can't," the northwind shouted back, "there's a storm brewing and I have to go along with my cousin Arctic wind."

Before long, though Sunnie could see a tiny house nestled among sloping hills that protected it from the icy wind.

"There's Santa's house," the northwind announced at last and they swooshed up to a frosty window pane.

Mrs. Santa Claus was peeking out the window as she chattered to four elves seated around the fireplace sipping hot chocolate.

"Well, all the work is over at last," she was saying. "It's a wonder we made it on time. Every year those children want more and more toys, don't they know Christmas means more than toys!"

"Excuse me," Sunnie said, catching Mrs. Santa by surprise. "Who on earth are you?" she wanted to know. And, Sunnie explained about the streetlight, the Christmas tree in the park and that she just HAD to see Santa Claus.

"Well, he's long gone," Mrs. Santa said. "But, if you really and truly want to find him, you will."

"Oh, we do," Sunnie exclaimed, and off she went with the northwind once again.

It seemed like hours later, when they stopped for a rest on a rooftop. The stars were twinkling brightly.

Sunnie took a good hard look at them for the first time. She thought of the story the northwind had told about the shepherds and the wisemen and the Christmas baby. Sunnie thought too about the tree in the park and all its starry lights.

"There's the Milky Way," the northwind pointed out and at that moment they saw a most peculiar sight.

"What is it?" Sunnie asked. "It's him, it's Santa Claus," the northwind exclaimed excitedly, as they took off after him.

They reached another rooftop just in time to see Santa climbing out of a chimney, dusting himself off and munching a chocolate cookie.

"Hello Mr. Santa," Sunnie began nervously. She blurted out to the jolly little man the story about the streetlight who needed a new bulb for Christmas, about the tree in the park and all its bright but hot lights and Wax

Wing's advice to find Santa Claus at the North Pole.

After finishing she plopped down exhausted for the first time.

"That's quite a story," Santa said thoughtfully as he brushed cookie crumbs from his long flowing beard. "Now go home and don't worry," he said, "Ho, ho, your streetlight is lucky to have such good friends."



When the northwind and Sunnie reached the edge of the park once again, they met Wax Wing and told her about the adventure. As they approached the street corner they stopped in amazement.

"I think Santa Claus, got here before you did," Wax Wing said, staring at the street corner. "Yes, he must have," Sunnie and the northwind said together.

Crowds of people stood under the brightest light they had ever seen, singing Christmas songs, laughing and chattering happily. The face on the bulb wasn't a sad face any more either, it was a bright, happy face.

The streetlight smiled happily. Sunnie looked up. It really was the brightest light she had ever seen, even better than the Christmas tree lights in the park.

It's a Christmas light, all right, Sunnie thought, just like the Christmas star in the northwind's story — Just like the Star of Bethlehem.

—S-P Photo
by Peter Wilson

Family recalls early Christmas

By George Shepherd

As Christmas day approaches, memory turns to Christmas seasons of long ago — 1913, when the Shepherd family moved to the Cypress Hills country during the last great land rush on the North American continent.

We settled 50 miles south of the cowtown of Maple Creek. Our next door neighbours, the Gaff family, lived four miles away.

As the homesteaders took up the former free range used by the local cattlemen, the Gaff outfit decided to hold what they called the last big old-timers dance. This was in the late fall of 1913. November had been mild and snow free and there was a general invitation to the countryside to take in this pre-Christmas party.

As you drove into the ranch, in the evening, by team and democrat — cars were still few and far between — the Gaff son-in-law Jud Boone, offered you a big swig of rum from a one-gallon crock. Your horses were stabled or tied to the corral rails and you made your way to the house. This was a big rambling two-storey 10-room building. It was all lit up and as you pushed your way into the house the din was terrific.

A local Metis named Witford was sawing away on a violin as though he would saw it in two, sweat streaming down his face and beating time with his moccasined foot. Added to this were the shouts of the dance callers. The house was set up for square dancing but if you preferred round dancing you took your girl outside in the cool night air where the Lane Brothers played their violins for the quieter round dances. This was in the comparative peace in the big log building bunk house.

For this big affair, the three Gaff girls had baked dozens of huge loaves of bread. A two-year-old hieffer had been slaughtered and the beef and homemade bread made a lunch fit for a king.

Rancher J.A. Gaff, generally known as Dad, had been born in Noble County, Indiana in 1850. He had moved out to the Kansas Plains in the buffalo hunting days when he was 18. He had met Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill Hickok, Bat Masterton and others of that day.

Gaff started buffalo hunting in the most primitive way, becoming what was known as a tongue hunter. While still a teen-ager, Gaff would ride out of one of the frontier towns with a 12-pound Spencer carbine and might shoot eight to 10 buffalo in a day. Cutting out the tongues and hanging them on his saddle he would take them into town where they sold for 50 cents apiece. They were pickled and shipped East, where they were considered a great delicacy.

In this method of hunting, nothing was taken but the tongues, the entire carcass being left to rot on the plains. It was a waste of a huge natural resource, but the buffalo were there by the millions — so what.

In the early 1900s, the Gaff family moved by covered wagons to Saskatchewan, settling on Battle Creek on the south slope of the Cypress Hills.

Dad Gaff was a big man physically, who always did things in a big way. He was always a central figure wherever he was.

At one time, he helped organize the shipment of a whole trainload of cattle from Maple Creek to Chicago. Gaff went along to take care of the shipment.

Making a good sale and after roughing it on the cattle train and around the stock



Saskatchewan storekeeper has his Christmas sign and decorations up. Chickens and geese for holiday eating are for sale, hung along the wall for display. Photo courtesy of the Public Library's local history department.

yards for a few days he thought he deserved a good meal. Stomping into a posh waterfront hotel Dad, in his cowboy boots and leather vest, was barred at the door by a waiter who explained that a coat and tie was necessary in their select dining room.

Dad was always a man of direct action. Pushing the waiter aside, he strode into the hotel dining room and seated himself at a table with white linen and silver ware. The head waiter looked this rough character over wondering if he had the money to pay for a meal, explaining that their meals were quite expensive. At this, Dad started banging the table around saying he wanted the best damn meal there was in the house and when he was through he would pay for it. Suiting the action to the words he lay down a roll of bills big enough to choke a cow. He got his way.

In our locality, as the homestead country was settled, school districts were formed and immediately became the focal point of the community. Schools were used for religious activities, social get-togethers, meetings of every description, marriages, funerals, or what have you. The schoolhouse gave muscle and kinship to a community aside from its initial purpose for education. It was the heartbeat of the locality.

At one time during their peak period it is estimated more than 4,000 of these one-room country schools operated in Saskatchewan. And the contribution by the young teachers to the cultural life of the province can hardly be overstated.

Pioneer school teachers, many barely

out of their teens, were lost to the profession through marriage. In our town of Consul there was a Homemakers Club of 50 members, of whom about half were ex-school teachers who had fallen to the blandishments of some persuasive homestead bachelor.

One of the activities of the teacher was planning and carrying out of the Christmas tree concert. So important was this event that many school boards had the concert written into the teacher's contract. Keen rivalry developed between various districts over the excellence of the respective programs. A teacher's reputation stood or fell according to the success of the school Christmas concert.

Weeks of preparation went into the Christmas concert and it was nothing short of marvellous what a young teacher could do with a few rolls of colored paper and ingenuity, coupled with the help of some of the mothers. The concert was the most democratic institution in the world — everyone was roped in. There could be a mixture of pupils of all grades and sizes. By the night of the concert the teacher might be on the point of nervous prostration, prepared to believe that her program might be a real disaster but grimly determined to carry on.

Of course, all went well and the applause was sweet music in the teacher's ears. It was her big moment of the year and the teacher's heart would be full to bursting. A climax to the concert would be a generous pot luck supper of sandwiches, cake and cookies, washed down with strong coffee.

As secretary treasurer of the West Plains school district for more than 20 years, I was responsible for supervising the boiling of the coffee in the boys' cloak room. I will always remember the time when a man's winter cap fell into the boiler in the ill-lighted porch and got boiled along with the sack of coffee. This was not discovered until the coffee had all been drunk and we had received many compliments on its excellence. Nobody died. We were built tough in those days. We had to be.

With lunch over, it was a case of on with the dance and joy was unconfined. If it was a stormy night — and it often was — the dance could last until daylight.

There was glamor, color, and vitality in those homestead days and a fervent air of brash optimism in the countryside. It was in this exciting, bustling, racy atmosphere that people spent the 1920s, making light of the hardships of homesteading. The West then, was partly in the old frontier era and partly in the bobbed-hair, post-war era. We were carried along with an insatiable curiosity for the unknown, which was the hallmark of the pioneer. It was a great time to be alive.

Saskatchewan people today may be a little hard bitten, just like the original pioneers, but the oldtime frontier cordiality and hospitality remains. To pioneer it in Saskatchewan took courage, character and most of the Ten Commandments. This wedge-shaped province still stands as the central arch of Western Canada. And this it really is.

Children describe Christmas' meaning

The word "Christmas" has special meaning for each one of us.

For some it means food, parties and happy times with friends and relatives.

For others it has a deeply religious significance — the birth of their Savior.

Still others think of long lines to buy presents which are sure to be returned; too much to eat and drink; dull visits with boring relatives.

Students at Prince Phillip School were asked what Christmas meant to them.

Christmas is:

... a baby named Jesus was born in a stable on Dec. 25; God gave us the greatest gift of life: Carolyn Genge, Grade 4.

... sharing with other people; to be kind and helpful. Heather Martin: Grade 4.

... the first snow; a warm fire; giving gifts and receiving some; a frenzied shopping race: Peter Brown, Grade 8.

... the time of year when everyone is full of cheer: Kim Misfeldt: Grade 8.

... believing, caring for others and the thought of giving: Bill Scherbluk, Grade 8.

... love and joy for everyone: Jason Thompson: Grade 3.

... when Christ was born: Janey Fillion: Grade 3.

... baking and decorating the tree; when the family is home and happy too: Karen Trout, Grade 6.

... making cakes, eating cookies: Deanna Empey, Grade 6.

... meeting lots of aunts, uncles and relatives: David Bouchard; Grade 7.

... love; joy; thoughtfulness: Alaina Bachynsky, Grade 7.

... taking back the present that doesn't work; trying to shop at the last moment; trying to go to sleep on Christmas Eve: John Mann, Grade 8.

... getting up too early (at least for Mom and Dad) to find out what's in that package that makes a clanking sound: Shannon Barbonoff.

... opening presents, singing carols: Ellen Carlson, Year 2.

... a baby born. Charlene Norlander Year 2.

... having presents and playing with the toys: Joey Skuce; Year 2.

... skipping breakfast, playing all day: Christine Mourrel, Year 2.



Above and below are two examples of student art from St. Phillip School. Students were asked to illustrate various Christmas songs.



... so what if Santa Claus doesn't bring me a present Elan Hamilton, Grade 2.

... It is hard to put up Christmas lights when you are small Nicole Wilton, Grade 3.

... a jolly time and being together: Robin Hopkins, Grade 3.

... snow, and a fat man saying Ho-Ho Jeff Senior, Grade 2.

... getting trampled trying to buy gifts Don Podalecki, Grade 8.

... the time of year when you buy lots of gifts for that one day and you're poor for the next three months: Todd Koroll, Grade 8.

... a long boring trip to wherever you're going: Todd Smith, Grade 8.



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Melfort	CJVR	1420
Lloydminster	CKSA	1080

The Danny Finkelman Saturday Morning Show, Saturday at 10:04, will serve up a Christmas special, with pianist Joel Shulman playing appropriate music at the Garden Party Restaurant and a continuing emphasis on exclusive Canadian music...

Between Ourselves moves to a Saturday at 1:04 time slot for one week, concentrating on the history of the Ursuline Convent of Quebec... Aida, by Verdi, will be the Metropolitan Opera presentation on Saturday at 2, with Martina Arroyo, Tatiana Troyanos and James McCracken among the leading players... Handel's Messiah, Saturday at 6:10, will be performed by the Vancouver Bach Choir and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, with soprano Alexandra Browning, contralto Monique Thompson, tenor Martin Chambers and bass Don Garrard...

Anthology, Saturday at 10:05, will include a special Christmas visit from Morley Callaghan... Special Occasion, Sunday at 1:05, presents The Snow Queen, an adaptation from Hans Christian Andersen, given an entirely new look by writer Leah Petersen and lyricist Kevin Knelman... there's a wide range of music, with interesting arrangements, and there's good drama content, with Rudy Lavalle, Malka, Jane Mallett, Ruth Springford, Peter Law and Hugh Webster among the players... Symphony World, Sunday at 7:05, includes a discussion with pianist Vladimir Ashkenazy, talking about why Russia produces so many excellent pianists... Concern, Sunday at 9:05, delves into the issues raised by a book, Alone of All Her Sex: The Myth and Cult of the Virgin Mary, with an interview with the author Marina Warner...

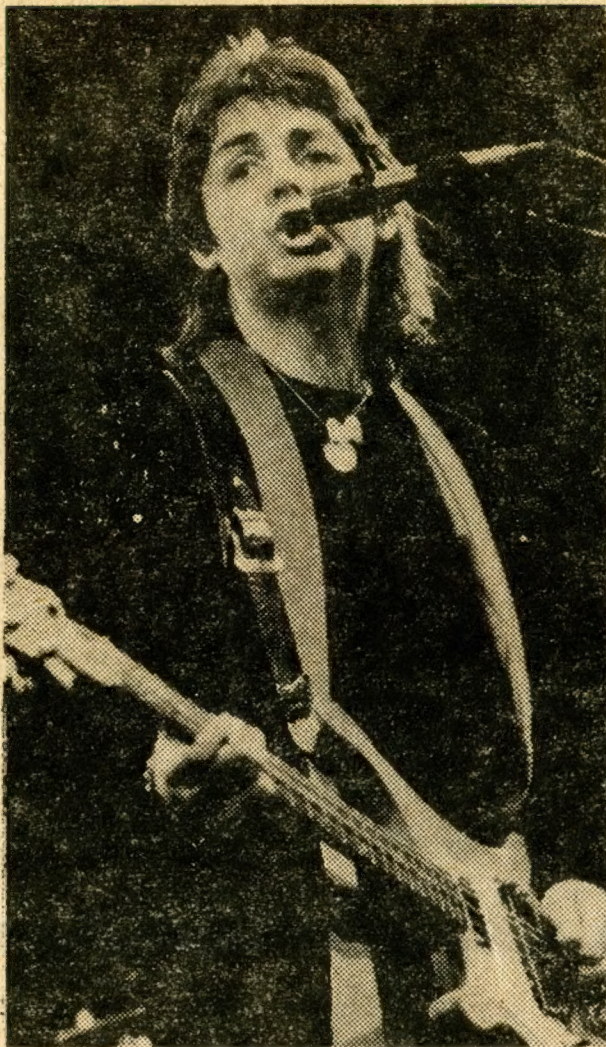
Mostly Music, weeknights at 10:20, features The Mozarteum Orchestra at the Salzburg Festival on Monday, the National Arts Centre Orchestra on Tuesday, the Tudor Singers on Wednesday, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra with violinist Isaac Stern on Thursday, and a New Year's Eve Special with P.D.Q. Bach and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra on Friday... Playhouse, Thursday at 8:04, begins a three-part mystery, Champagne Safari, with John Neville as a retired British secret service agent who accompanies a millionaire Frenchman (Otto Lowy) on a luxury expedition in British Columbia in the 1930s... CBC's New Year's Eve party will be a Cellidh from the Confederation room at the Isle Royal Hotel in Sydney, with fiddlers Winnie Chafe and Carl McKenzie, pianist Dougy MacPhee, guitarist Al Bennett and honky-tonk pianist Jim Delaney...

CFQC, Saskatoon, will feature Christmas Is on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, with vignettes, reminiscences, music and interviews with people like Andy Williams, the Osmonds, Amos and Andy and others... Counting Down The Oldies starts on Monday, featuring music from 1971 the first day, and the hits from succeeding years on subsequent days...

(FM)

Saskatoon	CJUS-FM	89.7 meg.
Saskatoon	CFMC-FM	103.98 meg.

The Christmas Day lineup on CJUS-FM will include The Goon Show at 12, String Orchestra at 12:30, Christmas feature from Germany at 1, the Christmas festival at 1:30, Special Music for Christmas Day at 3, and the University of Saskatchewan Greystone Singers at 6... Christmas Festival is a performance by the Cleveland Orchestra and Choruses, directed by Robert Page... the music is "A Particularly American Christmas" with compositions by Bernstein, Ives, Page, Gould, Menotti, Anderson, Copland and Berlin among others.



Paul McCartney

Long-play albums excellent gifts

Long-play albums are always good last-minute gifts for the Christmas shopper.

A particularly hot item this week is **Wings Over America**, Capitol SWCO-11593, the first live album from Paul McCartney and his band, recorded during the 20-city, 31-concert North American tour last spring. The three-set record contains 30 songs, some from the Beatle era like the slow, melodic Yesterday and some current rousers like Venus & Mars Rock ShowJet, which produces the real jamming. McCartney, his wife, Denny Laine, Jimmy McCulloch and Joe English serve up some super-charged material, with the aid of a four-piece horn section. A specially-constructed sound system on the tour was also a bonus in producing the album. And, for something new, there are three previously unreleased songs: Paul Simon's Richard Cory, Moody Blues' Go Now, and Soily. It's the eighth album for Wings since their inception in 1971.

For those who enjoyed the visit by The Hollies in Saskatoon within the last month, the logical souvenir is **The Hollies Live**, Columbia PES 90401. They have super harmonic vocals, revolving around the three-part work of Allan Clarke, Terry Sylvester and Tony Hicks; they have a well-crafted style with instrumentation; and it has quality studio work. Some of the old favorites include Bus Stop, I Can't Let Go, Carrie Anne, He Ain't Heavy and The Air That I Breathe plus some more recent hits like My Island and Too Young To Be Married.

Eric Clapton's **No Reason To Cry**, RSO RS-1-3004 is an example of Clapton at his best, mostly because the album achieves a spontaneous brilliance from the input of people like Bob Dylan, Richard Manuel, Rick Danko, Robbie Robertson and Ron Wood. Because of the diversity of artists, the styles change frequently on the album but there's dynamite all the way through. The cuts include Sign Language (with Dylan), Going Going Gone (with Robertson), Double Trouble, No Reason to Cry (the title song), Hello Old Friend and Black Summer Rain. Intense sound with the British blues in the forefront.

The highlight of Gloria Gaynor's career has been a song called **Never Can Say Goodbye**, Polydor PD1-4982 and her hit gets a six minute, 28-second treatment in this lively disco album. Honey Bee, Reach Out, I'll Be There, All I Need Is Your Sweet Lovin' and Searching are among the other cuts. Gaynor is a skilled performer, soulful and exciting, and she sings with much confidence. If there's a weakness to the album, it's the extended instrumentals and a little over-production.

If you're a country fan, there are some good bets available.

One with Canadian content is **The Mercey Brothers Homemade**, RCA KPL1-0188. The three brothers from Elmira, Ont. seem to have a greater feeling, than ever before, on this album and one song, If I Believed in Myself, is really getting attention at the moment. Eight of the cuts are totally Canadian, five of the songs are written by Terry Carisse and Bruce Rawlins, who write for the Merceys' studio. They have added vocal and instrumental backing, but when the chips are on the line, it's the three guys up front who count. Other cuts include Loving You From a Distance, You Know It Felt Good, Old Loves Never Die and Love Me Tonight.

Television viewers in the Saskatoon market haven't been affected yet by Mary Kay Place, the rising young star who plays Loretta Haggars on the TV show, Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman. **Mary Kay Place**, Columbia 34553 is an introduction of a fine country talent, who obviously is getting to know the ropes in the business. Brian Ahern produced the album, Paul Grady wrote three songs, Dolly Parton wrote one, and the catch is that Emmylou Harris, Anne Murray and Dolly Parton were among the girls who lent a hand in the back-up vocals.

Waylon Jennings: Are You Ready For The Country, RCA APL 1-1816 is a bit of a new sound from Jennings, who has broken different ground in recent years. The title song is a Neil Young composition; MacArthur Park is a standard; and Precious Memories is a longtime country favorite. The big, slow drawl comes on just as strongly whether he's in the honky tonk market or his new fling with a country rock.

And if you want to reach back for old-style country, **Western Country, Sons of the Pioneers**, Attic LAT 1020 is a change-of-pace. Attic picked up the Canadian rights to the album from descendants of the oldtime country group. Lloyd Perryman, who had been with the Sons for years, trained new voices with the old harmonies. The lineup includes Tumbling Tumbleweeds, Room Full Of Roses, Home on the Range, Cool Water, Texas Hills, Cowboy's Lament and One More Ride.

A good acquisition for people, who favor the standards, is **Reflections, Ronnie Aldrich**, London SP-44264. Aldrich is master of the two pianos and he uses London's Phase 4 systems so effectively. None of these songs has ever been recorded by Aldrich before and the lineup includes Summer's End, an original, Never Gonna Fall in Love Again and All By Myself (from Eric Carmen). Spanish Eyes, Scarlet Ribbons, Love Is A Many Splendored Thing, and Adagio, a 17th century composition which gets a touch of Latin. A fascinating counter melody always makes the Aldrich sound so enjoyable.

Black Magic, Stanley Black, London SP 44263 is another prime example of the quality product which emits from the London studios. Black, an orchestra leader held in much esteem, gives some contemporary songs a special touch and there's a new delight in Theme From Shaft, Feelings, Our Day Will Come, The Hustle, Love in The Rain and Volare.

And if Irving Berlin's music is your cup of tea, try **Frank Chacksfield Plays Irving Berlin**, London, SP 44254. The Chacksfield fans will recall that in recent years, he has produced one of the finest Beatle instrumental albums. And he puts it all together with an Annie Get Your Gun medley, plus Top Hat, A Pretty Girl is Like A Melody, Alexander's Ragtime Band, Blue Skies, I Left My Heart at the Stage Door Canteen, White Christmas and God Bless America. N.P.

Sears

Feature Record of the Week

Merry Christmas



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Assessment of 1976

... choice of 'best' albums difficult

By Gary Deane
Special to the Star-Phoenix

Again, it's come time to make an assessment of the year in terms of its "best" albums. Difficult at best, doubtful at worse, any choices really should be seen as favored releases rather than an absolute selection.

There are too many albums recorded in a single year to say "yes" to ten or so in exclusion of so many possibly deserving releases. On the whole, 1976 was a very good year for rock and here's some of the reasons for thinking so.

Elton John, Blue Moves, MCA

A marvellously vivid and tensile album from a performer who had gone artistically soft on his last four or five albums. Bernie Taupin's lyrics are more tangible, less glib than at any time since Tumbleweed Connection and the majority of the songs on this vast double set carry as great an urgency as anything the pair have ever written.

Stevie Wonder

Songs in the Key of Live, Motown

Stevie Wonder remains the primary synthesizer of contemporary pop music continually re-evaluating and re-inforcing the elements of rock, pop, jazz and soul. A distinct and modern vision, the album is less specifically black than Wonder's preceding albums and he cuts across all racial and musical bias to provide the most commonly appealing statements of 1976. The album's spiritual concerns with faith and God make it lyrically a serious undertaking but musically, Songs is universal.

Peter Frampton

Frampton Live, A&M

Frampton's musical and personal ingenuousness may be suspect but his performance tapped a nerve in the mass pop consciousness that twitched for almost four million albums. That's worth something.

The Doobie Brothers

Best of the Doobie Brothers, Warners

The Doobie Brothers, through their singles and subsequent song play in every bar and club in North America are as existing in the rock'n'roll atmosphere as any band in history, perhaps with the exception of Chicago and Loggins and Messina. A greatest hits package therefore deserves a "best."

Blue Oyster Cult

Agents of Fortune, Columbia

A checked tendency towards instrumental temperance and lyrical over-statement yields an album of gleaming, direct hard rock and one of the year's best singles Don't Fear (The Reaper).

Jeff Beck, Wired, Columbia

While not quite as audacious as Blow By Blow, Beck still struck a unique accord between the sullen hardness of rock and the more provocative intentions of modern jazz. No guitarist other than Beck has really yet accepted the notion.

Heart, Dreamboat Annje, Mushroom

Heart's musical and sexual liveness are beginning to win this Canadian band an international audience in numbers which may exceed anything a group from this country has ever known. The critical acclaim is already there.



Darryl Hall and John Oates

Best for two reasons — Hall and Oates melodies, while smooth and quick, also maintain a strong atmosphere and rhythm. Secondly, their lyrics have the kind of sophisticated appointment and directness which shows how much lyrics can mean to a song.

The Rolling Stones

Black 'n' Blue, Rolling Stone

A re-affirmation of the Stones' resolute directness in dealing with rock'n'roll. They may no longer be the world's greatest rock'n'roll band but then neither is anyone else.

Little Feat

The Last Record, Warner's

Lean and superbly honed, the Last Record shows again why Little Feat are one of the most exceptional bands in American rock. The group's nervy unpredictability is irresistible and the Last Record's unerring jazziness makes it more so.

Roger McGuinn, Cardiff Rose, Columbia

Although deeply involved in Dylan and his own response to Dylan, McGuinn comes off the Rolling Thunder tour with a transcendent album which succeeds on the passion and individuality of its performance. McGuinn at last makes a fully realized disc.

Graham Parker and The Rumor

Howling Wind, Vertigo

A thoroughly researched, exuberant anthology by a British pub rocker. There is a pervasive sense of awe and devotion for the myths and mystery of America and Parker has absorbed the conventions of style with zeal and intelligence. If Bruce Springsteen were English, this would be his album.

Pousette, Dart Band, Capitol

Clear, funky, lyrical rock'n'roll which eludes a regional setting. L.A., Nashville and New York all have their place at the Center of Pousette.

Charlie Daniels, Saddletramp, Columbia

A fascinating ambivalence of styles which magnifies Daniel's hearty brilliance as a man who can have his own way — from rockabilly to progressive jazz — and still stay country.

The Beckies, Sire

Elevated pop melodies and bracing rock arrangements whose balance is such that nothing could sound more attractive or productive of hit singles. Unfortunately, the band never had one and the Beckies got lost. If they had been released in 1965, they'd be re-released today.

Phoebe, Second Childhood, Columbia

It Looks Like Phoebe Snow, Columbia

Snow is one of the most unusual and provocative song stylists to emerge in the 70s. Her voice is delicate without being fragile, her phrasing is daring, almost free-form. She sings with a sort of jazzy bob and weave touched with blues and pop inflections and Snow takes pain to preserve the integrity of her performance while trying to make it palatable to a larger audience. Two albums in 1976 and both are superb.

Earth, Wind and Fire, Spirit, Columbia

Black funk crossed with a white rock sensibility. Smooth but visceral.

Chris Hillman, Slippin' Away, Asylum

A defined, joyful release from a first veteran of the L.A. Country rock scene. Hillman plays and sings like a rock'n'roll kid while his contemporaries such as Crosby-Nash just whistle down the wind.

The Amazing Rhythm Aces

Too Stuffed to Jump, RCA

Country and western melodiousness combined with a hip rock'n'roll attitude. The album falls together as naturally as Stacked Deck and although laid-back it ain't never dog-eared.

Pagliaro, Columbia

Brilliant, prismatic rock'n'roll which graces the simplest lines in the simplest songs with a wit, potency and raw sexuality which is reminiscent of the greatest rock artists from Presley to the Stones. From Quebec, Pag has more unvarnished style and charisma than anything Canada's ever known.

Elvin Bishop

Struttin' My Stuff, Capricorn

Bishop's best, all basic roadhouse rock that's funky, tight and stage-happy. It also gave up one of the best singles Fooled Around and Fell in Love.

Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Warner's

The McGarrigle's performance has an unparalleled and natural purity. Their style is quaint, derived from folk and minstrel traditions and their lyrics have a simple and honest intent. Best known songs are Maria Muldaur's Worksong and Ronstadt's Heart Like A Wheel. Perfect.

Linda Ronstadt

Hasten Down the Wind, Asylum

While not as ideal as her best, last year's Heart Like A Wheel, Ronstadt is still outstanding in her element as a popular interpreter of both country and pop. Her sweet, sonorous voice draws attention from the obvious compromises. Dishonest but not insincere.

Ted Nugent, Epic

Destructive, unrestrained hard rock which represents the genre of its most extreme and truthful. His late year release couldn't equal it probably because the kind of awesome rock'n'roll spontaneity comes but once.

Toots and the Maytalls

Funky Kingston, Reggae Got Soul, Island

Animated, saucy and a breath of island fresh air, Toots offered these two albums which show a basic rock'n'roll and American soul totality beyond the parochial politics and manners of reggae.

Crack the Sky, Lifesong

A brilliantly assured first album from a group of the same mind as Steely Dan — fresh, glistening melodies, flamboyant instrumentals and lyrics which are both specific yet allegorical. This writer's personal best of the year.

Eric Carmen, Arista

Since his days with the Raspberries, no one has provided pop music with a more polished mirror of itself than Carmen and his solo is blinding in its reflection. All By Myself was not all by itself on this album.

Tower of Power,

Ain't Nothing Stopping Us Now, Columbia

With a new singer, Edward McGee's Tower of Power has come up with its most striking album since its Down at the Night Club Days. Celebrative, organic funk.

Steve Miller, Fly Like an Eagle, Capitol

Miller's best, most certain album. Too many times in the past Miller has allowed his albums to become unfocused and unwieldy. The songs on this one are discrete and intentional and together to make up a good recording.

Aerosmith, Rocks, Columbia

This band has a lot of nerve but at least they'll go to lengths to describe what rock is really about. Hard as nails and twice as pointed.

Top 10 hits

The top ten hits, compiled by CKOM, are for the week ending December 22.

This week	Last week
1. Tonight's The Night, Rod Stewart	1
2. Rubberband Man, Spinners	6
3. Livin' Thing, E.L.O.	7
4. Hot Line, Sylvers	8
5. Stand Tall, Burton Cummings(c)	5
6. You Make Me Feel Like Dancing Leo Sayer	11
7. Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word Elton John	12
8. Love Me Yvonne Elliman	13
9. You Don't Have To Be A Star, M. McCoo and B. Davis, Jr.	11
10. I Never Cry Alice Cooper	10

Christmas Day television varied

Christmas Day on Canadian television is going to be a mixture of children's fantasies, heart-warming tales, music, dance, readings and even a parade and a circus thrown in.

A CTV morning special will be Reginald The Robot, a children's musical play in which the owner of a candy store and toy shop, is secretly building a robot to replace the children. It will be seen at 9:30.

Peanuts and Popcorn, a regular Saturday morning feature on CBC at 10:30, will include a feature film, A Christmas Two-Step, in which a magical grandfather's clock answers a little girl's wish to tap dance at a Christmas pageant.

Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe's story about a shipwreck survivor, will be seen on the CBC at 2:30. Stanley Baker is Crusoe, John Holder is his man Friday, and the film, done in Tobago, was a co-production between the BBC and the NBC and purchased by the Canadian network.

The Tiny Tree is a children's fantasy, scheduled on the CBC at 6:30. The animals of the forest try to cheer up a crippled girl by moving a tree closer to her home. Significant is that the music is by Johnny Marks, who composed Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer. Roberta Flack does the singing and Buddy Ebsen (of Beverly Hills fame) reads the part of the badger.

CTV will repeat Oliver!, the story of a boy who finds happiness among thieves and vagabonds. Mark Lester and Jack Wild are the mischievous youngsters, Ron Moody is their coach, Oliver Reed and Shani Wallis represent a romantic twist. The three-hour musical, assembled by a competent team including Carol Reed and Lionel Bart, will be seen at 7.

The CBC will have a British slant to a pair of mid-evening programs, Celebration, with songs and readings by Petula Clark and Sir Geraint Evans, at 7:30, and Circus, a showcase of the world's best circus acts direct from London, at 8:30.

Noel is the name of a Christmas rock fantasy, which has been scheduled on the CBC at 10. Marek Norman created the music, the Vancouver Voice of Youth choir and orchestra performed it in Christchurch Cathedral in Vancouver. Soloists are Brent Carver, Kathleen Payne and Wayne Robson. There are traditional carols and Christmas themes but some modern music, a mime and multi-media effects have been worked into the program.

CBC, Saskatoon has produced a fine feature, Where There's A Will, There's Ted Ohlsen's Way, which has been placed on the Christmas night schedule at 7.



Jack Wild, right, plays the Artful Dodger and Mark Lester plays Oliver on CTV, Dec. 25 at 7.

Executive producer Bill Ryan has put together a touching story about a man, who is fulfilling a dream of building a future in his sightless world.

Ohlsen came to Canada in 1956, was employed as a construction laborer at Winnipeg and a mine mechanic at Esterhazy, and while hunting one November day when he was 22 years old, he suffered an accident which cost him his sight.

Today Ohlsen owns and operates a hunting and fishing resort near the south-east arm of Deschambault Lake at mile 156 on the Hanson Lake Road.

Ryan's program details the spirited and courageous triumph of a man, who didn't want to be denied the joys of nature.

There are some surprising decisions in TV's latest guessing games.

The producers of Serpico, after hearing they were about to have their police show cancelled, found they weren't on the NBC cancellation list after all. No one is sure how much breathing space they will be given.

Holmes and Yo-Yo, which had been dropped by CTV last week and apparently for good, is going to find its way back onto the Canadian network for at least two more episodes.

African Queen, a TV pilot based on the movie made famous by Humphrey Bogart, looks like it will be getting off the ground. Warren Oates and Marietta Hartley, who will be the stars, have been told to hurry

back to work and shoot at least three follow-up episodes. It's liable to make the CBS by March or April and CTV has the Canadian rights.

Bob Moir has been named manager of planning and production for the CBC's English network sports coverage. A onetime sportswriter in Winnipeg, Moir has been executive producer for the CFL's Eastern Conference games and executive producer for the Olympic Games coverage in Montreal.

And, yes, sports fans, it's true. Nary a touch of sports on Christmas Day this year. Not even the National Hockey League is going to play in front of the TV cameras and that's a first for three or four decades.

Eight day week

Friday

Mary and Lou both walk off the job when their request for a raise is turned down on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. CBC, 8.

Donny and Marie welcome guests Paul Lynde, Loretta Swit, Edgar Bergen and Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs. CTV, 8.

Ed makes a date over a CB radio and the next thing he knows they're headed for Las Vegas in her camper on *Chico and the Man*. CBC, 8:30.

The cousin of Rockford's attorney is suspected in the slaying of two top executives on *The Rockford Files*. CTV, 9.

The Tommy Hunter Country Christmas show features regulars plus his wife Shirley and their three boys. CBC, 9.

Dean Martin's *Red Hot Scandals of 1926* features the music, fashions and humor of the mid-1920s with guests Jonathan Winters, Dom DeLuise, Abe Vigoda, Hermione Baddeley and more. CTV, 10.

A vengeful detective solves a homicide with the help of a junkie informant on *Police Story*. CBC, 10.

The Christmas Eve Church Service is a special from St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Toronto. CBC, 11:35.

Saturday

The *Tiny Tree* is a Christmas special about the animals of the forest who decide to move a tree to where a crippled girl can see it to make her Christmas happier. CBC, 6:30.

Celebration features Petula Clark and Sir Geraint Evans in one hour of Christmas songs, dance and readings. CBC, 7:30.

Championship Circus is a 90-minute showcase of the best circus acts in the world with Ted Reynolds as commentator from London, England. CBC, 8:30.

The meaning of Christmas is translated into an hour of Christmas rock fantasy called *Noel*. CBC, 10.

Sunday

Nick's efforts to play good samaritan end up stranding him aboard a drifting raft with a feverish Relic on *The Beachcombers*. CBC, 7.

A test pilot is found uninjured after an encounter with Second World War fighter and only the Six Million Dollar Man believes her story. CTV, 7.

Sonny and Cher's guests are Don Knotts and Joey Heatherton. CTV, 8.

Judge Franklin is charged with three counts of tyranny by his two children and his housekeeper on *The Tony Randall Show*. CBC, 8:30.

On Christmas Eve, *Kojak* and his staff find their hands full with a distraught husband and a spoiled young woman. CTV, 9.

Kaleshnikoff, in the *Here To Stay* series, is set in the town of Fort Clyde and follows the unexpected adventures of a self-made millionaire. CBC, 9.

W-5 presents a conversation with Prime Minister Trudeau. CTV, 10.

Lies documents the making of the successful feature film, *Lies My Father Told Me*. CBC, 10.

Monday

Thelma's favorite teacher falls for J.J.'s paintings and then for J.J. on *Good Times*. CTV, 7.

Jim Perry, host of *Headline Hunters*, welcomes Ben Wicks to the show. CTV, 7:30.

Brenda's boyfriend fixes up Rhoda with a loud, pushy, arrogant, showbiz type as a blind date. CBC, 8.

The Waltons' home is devastated by fire and although there is no physical damage to the family, they suffer from emotional wounds. CTV, 8.

Phyllis stretches her friendship with Mary Richards to the breaking point when Mary flies to her side in a time of need. CBC, 8:30.

Archie will stop at nothing to have his grandson baptized on *All in the Family*. CBC, 9:30.

A woman witnesses a murder but not the killer; although the killer saw her on *Streets of Francisco*. CTV, 10.

Ninety Minutes looks at chopped liver sculptures and talks with Guido Sarducci, the comedian who poses as a gossip columnist. CBC, 11:13.

Guests on the Merv Griffin Show include Tony Randall, Dionne Warwick, Wayne Rogers and Stan Kann. CFQC, 12:15.

Tuesday

Bobby Vinton Show guests include Arte Johnson, Laine Kazan and Foster Brooks. CTV, 7.



Nehemiah Persoff and Jackie Burroughs star in Kaleshnikoff Sunday on CBC at 9.

The Bionic Woman poses as a blackjack dealer on a luxurious seagoing casino to find out if she is on a floating bomb. CTV, 7:30.

The King of Kensington decides there will be no more credit in the store so he can finance a week's holiday for Cathy and himself. CBC, 8:30.

Year End Review is a review of the world's big political, war and disaster stories with first-hand reports by foreign correspondents. CBC, 9:30.

Phyllis Diller tries to con David Steinberg into putting her two nephews on the show. CTV, 9:30.

The guests scheduled for *Ninety Minutes* include Graham Shaw, Charles Wycoff and the Canadian Archery Champion. CBC, 11:35.

John Dean, Anthony Newley, Shields and Yarnell and Lola Falana join Merv Griffin. CFQC, 12:30.

Wednesday

The *Nature of Things* takes a close look at a coral reef, which represents the oldest known ecosystem. CBC, 8.

John Diefenbaker discusses the Gerda Munsinger Affair on *One Canadian*. CBC, 8:30.

Musicamera presents the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, a 65-piece orchestra which performs a wide selection of pop concert favorites. CBC, 9.

Musicamera presents *Winterpeg*, a cinematic ballet without dancers, and captures the man-made and natural beauty of winter. CBC, 10.

Rope Skipper, Suzanne Stevens and Gordon Sinclair are the guests on *Ninety Minutes*. CBC, 11:35.

Merv Griffin's guests include Robert Conrad, David Brenner, Dody Goodman, Rita Moreno and Greg Boyington. CFQC, 12:30.

Thursday

Teleplay presents a drama in which a neurotic revolutionary holds a young boy as hostage in an attempt to obtain time on national TV. CBC, 9:30.

Muclear looks at the film and television industry which offers violence, sex and exploitation films. CTV, 9:30.

Georgina Worsley decides to throw a riotous part at the Eaton Place while Lord and Lady Bellamy are away on *Upstairs, Downstairs*. CBC, 10.

Ninety Minutes welcomes guests Karen Kain and Frank Augustyn, Paddy Crean, Tom Chapin and Joe Schlesinger. CBC, 11:35.

Totie Fields, Bert Convy, Shecky Greene, Florence Henderson, Danny Thomas and Tommy Leonetti are the guests on Merv Griffin. CFQC, 12:30.

Friday

Stars on Ice features Karen Magnussen, Vic Franklyn, Cathy Lee Irwin, Robin and Michael McCarthy, Donald Jackson and Eddie Shack, Irene and Harold Avery. CTV, 7.

Houdini's biographer, Milburn Christopher is one of the guests on *Ninety Minutes*, others include Tom Makem, Liam Clancy, Tommy Thompson and John Candy. CBC, 11:35.

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Saturday, December 25

6:00—University of the Air (8)	Queen's Message (11)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)	(5) (3) (2)
7:00—Romper Room (8)	2:30—Show Biz (8)
7:30—Cartoon Playhouse (8)	Robinson Crusoe (11) (5)
8:00—It is Written (8)	(3) (2)
8:30—Carolling (8)	3:00—Wide World of Sports (8)
9:00—Salvation Army Christmas Show (8)	4:30—Hymn Sing (11) (3) (2)
French (11)	Christmas Story (5)
Unitel (3)	5:00—The Joy of Christmas (8)
9:30—Reginald the Robot (8)	Space 1999 (11) (5) (3)
Wickie (11)	(2)
Larry Solway (5)	5:30—Beverly Hillbillies (8)
Flintstones (3)	6:00—Dick Van Dyke (8)
10:00—French (11)	News (11) (5) (3) (2)
Star Trek (5)	6:30—My Three Sons (8)
10:30—Abbott and Costello (8)	Tiny Tree (11) (3) (2)
Peanuts and Popcorn (11)	Allan King (5)
Gilligan's Island (3)	7:00—Movie (8)
11:00—Bonanza (5)	Where There's a Will (11)
Wolfman Jack (3)	Teleforum (3)
11:30—Davey and Goliath (3)	Baptiste Special (2)
4-H Club (2)	7:30—Celebration (11) (5) (3)
12:00—QC Family Christmas (8)	(2)
A Christmas Story (11)	8:30—Championship Circus (11) (5) (3) (2)
Movie (5)	10:00—Definition (8)
Teleforum (3)	Noel (11) (2)
Wolfman Jack (2)	David Frost (5)
12:30—Batman (11)	Special (3)
Howie Meeker (3)	10:30—All's Fair (8)
Peanuts and Popcorn (2)	11:00—National News (8) (11)
12:45—Mr. Chips (3)	(5) (3) (2)
1:00—Queen's Message (8)	11:15—Queen's Message (11)
Star Trek (11)	(5) (3) (2)
Wayne Newton (3)	11:20—Local News (8) (3) (2)
1:15—Camp Easter Seal (8)	In Concert (11)
1:30—Gilligan's Island (8)	Movie (5)
2:00—Horst Koehler (8)	11:40—Movie (3) (2)
	11:45—Movie (8)
	12:30—Movie (11)



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8 CFQC, Saskatoon
11 CBC, Saskatoon
5 CKBI, Prince Albert
3 CKOS, Yorkton
2 CKSA, Lloydminster

Sunday, December 26

6:00—University of the Air (8)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)
7:00—Romper Room (8)
7:30—Jimmy Swaggart (8)
8:00—Rex Humbard (8)
8:30—Faith for Today (5)
Jimmy Swaggart (3)
9:00—Day of Discovery (8)
French (11)
Jimmy Swaggart (5)
Old Time Gospel (3)
9:30—Uncle Bobby (8)
Day of Discovery (5)
9:45—Perspective (2)
10:00—Unitel (8)
Rex Humbard (5) (2)
Day of Discovery (3)
10:30—This Week (8)
Davey and Goliath (3)
10:45—Inside the Shamrock (3)
11:00—Definition (8)
Meeting Place (11) (5)
It is Written (3)
NFL Football (2)
11:30—It is Written (8)
Teleforum (3)
12:00—Film (8)
NFL Football (11) (5)
(3)
12:30—News — Farming (8)
12:45—Social Credit (8)
1:00—Wonderful Life (8)
1:30—Agape (8)
Sportsweek (2)
2:00—Turning — Consumer (8)
World Tomorrow (2)
2:30—Movie (8)
Sportsweek (11) (5) (3)
It is Written (2)
3:00—Living Tomorrow (11)
Farm News (5)
Faith to Live By (3)
Faith for Today (2)

3:15—A Way Out (11)
3:30—Money Makers (11) (3)
Agape (5)
Farm Report (2)
4:00—Recital (11) (5) (3) (2)
4:30—Question Period (8)
Country Canada (11) (5)
(3) (2)
5:00—Last of the Wild (8)
Hymn Sing (11) (5) (3)
(2)
5:30—Gong Show (8)
Howie Meeker (11)
Bob Newhart (5)
Turning — Teleforum (3)
Pentecost Presents (2)
5:45—Mr. Chips (11)
6:00—The Jeffersons (8)
Disney (11) (5) (3) (2)
6:30—Kreskin (8)
7:00—Six Million Dollar Man (8)
Beachcombers (11) (5)
(3) (2)
7:30—Superspecial (11) (5) (3)
(2)
8:00—Sonny and Cher (8)
8:30—Tony Randall (11) (5)
(3) (2)
9:00—Kojak (8)
Here to Stay (11) (5) (3)
(2)
10:00—W-5 (8)
Lies (11) (5) (3) (2)
11:00—National News (8) (11)
(5) (3) (2)
11:20—Local News (8) (5) (3)
(2)
Hawaii Five-O (11)
11:40—Movie (3)
11:45—What is Truth? (8)
Mike Douglas (5)
12:15—Movie (8)
Baretta (11)

Monday, December 27

6:00—University of the Air (8)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)
6:45—Top of the Morning (3)
7:00—Canada AM (8)
8:30—Mon Ami (5)
The Price is Right (3)
8:45—Friendly Giant (5)
9:00—Saskatchewan AM (8)
Party Game (5)
Teleforum (3)
9:15—The Sun Ranners (11)
Good Morning (3)
Classified Ads (2)
9:30—Yoga (8)
Mon Ami (11) (3)
Enjoy Being Beautiful (5)
Schools (2)
9:45—Friendly Giant (11) (3)
10:00—First Impressions (8)
Camera 12 (11) (5) (3)
(2)
10:30—Pots and Pans (8)
Mr. Dressup (11) (5)
(3) (2)
11:00—Joyce Davidson (8)
Sesame Street (11) (5)
(3) (2)
11:30—Jim McCrory (8)
12:00—Flintstones (8)
Coronation Street (11)
Movie (5)
Midday Show (3)
Bob McLean (2)
12:30—Project Farm Under-
standing (8)
Noon show (11)
1:00—Emergency (8)
Bob McLean (11)
Mike Douglas (3)
Profile (2)
1:30—Film (2)
2:00—Al Hamel (8)
All in the Family (11)
(2)
Young and Restless (5)
2:30—Edge of Night (11) (5)
(3) (2)
3:00—Another World (8)
Take Thirty (11) (5) (3)
(2)

3:30—Celebrity Cooks (11) (5)
(3) (2)
4:00—Match Game (8)
It's Your Choice (11) (5)
(3) (2)
4:30—Beverly Hillbillies (8)
Coming Up Rosie (11)
(5) (3) (2)
5:00—Dick Van Dyke (8)
Mr. Dressup (11) (2)
The Price is Right (5)
Gilligan's Island (3)
5:30—My Three Sons (8)
Room 222 (11) (5) (3)
Hogan's Heroes (2)
6:00—Movin' On (8)
Bob Newhart (11)
News (5) (3) (2)
6:30—News (11)
Hawaii Five-O (5)
Little House (3)
7:00—Good Times (8)
St. Demetrious (11)
Little House (2)
7:30—Headline Hunters (8)
Christmas Story (11)
Muppets (5) (3)
8:00—The Waltons (8)
Rhoda (11) (5) (3) (2)
8:30—Phyllis (11) (5) (3) (2)
9:00—Front Page Challenge (11) (5) (3) (2)
9:30—All in the Family (11)
(5) (3) (2)
10:00—Streets of San Fran-
cisco (8)
Barney Miller (11) (5)
(3) (2)
10:30—Man Alive (11) (5) (3)
(2)
11:00—National News (8) (11)
(5) (3) (2)
11:20—Local News (8) (11) (5)
(3) (2)
11:35—Ninety Minutes (11) (3)
(2)
11:45—Odd Couple (8)
Mike Douglas (5)
12:15—Merv Griffin (8)
1:00—Baretta (11)

Tuesday, December 28

6:00—University of the Air (8)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)
6:45—Top of the Morning (3)
7:00—Canada AM (8)
8:30—Mon Ami (5)
Price is Right (3)
8:45—Friendly Giant (5)
9:00—Saskatchewan AM (8)
Bingo — Bulletin (5)
News (3)
9:15—French (11)
Good Morning (3)
Classified Ads (2)
9:30—Yoga (8)
Mon Ami (11) (3) (2)
Enjoy Being Beautiful (5)
9:45—Friendly Giant (11) (3)
(2)
10:00—First Impressions (8)
Camera 12 (11) (5) (3)
(2)
10:30—Pots and Pans (8)
Mr. Dressup (11) (5)
(3) (2)
11:00—Joyce Davidson (8)
Sesame Street (11) (5)
(3) (2)
11:30—Jim McCrory (8)
12:00—Flintstones (8)
Coronation Street (11)
Junction (5)
Midday Show (3)
Bob McLean (2)
12:30—News — Farming (8)
Noon Show (11)
1:00—Emergency (8)
Bob McLean (11)
Young and Restless (5)
Phil Silvers (3)
Woman's World (2)
1:30—Party Game (5)
Upstairs, Downstairs (3)
Film (2)
2:00—Al Hamel (8)
All in the Family (11)
(2)
Coffee Break (5)

2:30—The Edge of Night (11)
(5) (3) (2)
3:00—Another World (8)
Take Thirty (11) (5) (3)
(2)
3:30—Celebrity Cooks (11) (5)
(3) (2)
4:00—Match Game (8)
It's Your Choice (11) (5)
(3) (2)
4:30—Beverly Hillbillies (8)
Electric Company (11)
(5) (3) (2)
5:00—Dick Van Dyke (8)
Homemade T.V. (11) (2)
Price is Right (5)
Cartoons (3)
5:30—My Three Sons (8)
Room 222 (11) (5) (3)
Hogan's Heroes (2)
6:00—Q Line (8)
Get Smart (11)
News (5) (3) (2)
6:30—News (8) (11)
Little House (5)
Laverne and Shirley (3)
7:00—Bobby Vinton (8)
Tony Orlando (3)
Hawaii Five-O (2)
7:30—Bionic Woman (8)
Wolfman Jack (11) (5)
8:00—Happy Days (11) (5) (3)
(2)
8:30—Julie (8)
King of Kensington (11)
(5) (3) (2)
9:00—One Day at a Time (8)
M.A.S.H. (11) (5) (3) (2)
9:30—David Steinberg (8)
Year End Review (11)
(5) (3) (2)
10:00—Switch (8)
11:00—National News (8) (11)
(5) (3) (2)
11:20—Local News (8)
(11) (5) (3) (2)
11:35—Ninety Minutes (11) (3)
(2)
11:45—Mike Douglas (5)
12:00—Odd Couple (8)
12:30—Merv Griffin (8)

Merry Christmas

To all of you from the
Merchants and Staff of

Mid

Close-ups is the title of our new people page — very Thursday in the Star-Phoenix.

are all kinds of events happening in various communities in our readership area of Central Saskatchewan. Our page is open to all community service, church and groups, clubs and organizations sponsoring events of interest.

All the information (brief description of event, time, dates) be sent to us one week prior to publication.

Please print neatly or type and include the name, address and telephone number of the sender, group spokesman or club officer for reference purposes.

Community Close-ups — a people page — from the Paper People.

Address all items to: Community Close-ups
The Star-Phoenix
204 5th Avenue North
Saskatoon S7K 2P1

SPORTS WEEK

Saturday — Wide World of Sports (CTV at 3).

Sunday — NFL Football, Los Angeles Rams vs. Minnesota Vikings (CBC at 12); Sportsweek (CBC at 2:30).

Thursday — Indoor Games Highlights (CTV at 6); Indoor Games (CTV at 11:45 p.m.).

Friday — Indoor Games Highlights and Reviews (CTV at 1).

Wednesday, December 29

6:00—University of the Air (8)	3:30—Celebrity Cooks (11) (5)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)	(3) (2)
6:45—Top of the Morning (3)	4:00—Match Game (8)
7:00—Canada AM (8)	It's Your Choice (11) (5)
8:30—Mon Ami (5)	(3) (2)
Price is Right (3)	4:30—Beverly Hillbillies (8)
8:45—Friendly Giant (5)	Almighty Voice (11) (5)
9:00—Saskatchewan AM (8)	(2)
Bingo — Bulletin (5)	Just for Fun (3)
Teleforum (3)	5:00—Dick Van Dyke (8)
9:15—French (11)	The Young Chefs (11)
Good Morning Show (3)	(2)
Classified Ads (2)	Price is Right (5)
9:30—Yoga (8)	Flipper (3)
Mon Ami (11) (3) (2)	5:30—My Three Sons (8)
Enjoy Being Beautiful (5)	Room 222 (11) (5) (3)
9:45—Friendly Giant (11) (3)	Hogan's Heroes (2)
(2)	6:00—Definition (8)
10:00—First Impressions (8)	Muppets (11)
Camera 12 (11) (5) (3)	News (5) (3) (2)
(2)	6:30—News (8) (11)
10:30—Pots and Pans (8)	Movie (5)
Mr. Dressup (11) (5)	Andy (3)
(3) (2)	7:00—Funny Farm (8)
11:00—Joyce Davidson (8)	Charles Angels (3)
Sesame Street (11) (5)	Starsky and Hutch (2)
(3) (2)	7:30—Kreskin (8)
11:30—Jim McCrory (8)	Bluff (11)
12:00—Flintstones (8)	8:00—Outdoor Journal (8)
Coronation Street (11)	Nature of Things (11)
Junction (5)	(5) (3) (2)
Midday (3)	8:30—Lawrence Welk (8)
Bob McLean (2)	One Canadian (11) (5)
12:30—News — Farming (8)	(3) (2)
Noon Show (11)	9:00—Musicamera (11) (5) (3)
1:00—Emergency (8)	(2)
Bob McLean (11)	9:30—Big Q Country (8)
Young and Restless (5)	10:00—Movin' On (8)
Mike Douglas (3)	10:30—Royal Suite (11) (5) (3)
Consumer — Recreation (2)	(2)
1:30—Party Game (5)	11:00—National News (8) (11)
Film (2)	(5) (3) (2)
2:00—Al Hamel (8)	11:20—Local News (8) (11) (5)
All in the Family (11)	(3) (2)
(2)	11:35—Ninety Minutes (11)
Coffee Break (5)	11:40—Ninety Minutes (3)
2:30—Edge of Night (11) (5)	Gunsmoke (2)
(3) (2)	11:45—Mike Douglas (5)
3:00—Another World (8)	12:00—Odd Couple (8)
Take Thirty (11) (5) (3)	12:30—Merv Griffin (8)
(2)	

Thursday, December 30

6:00—University of the Air (8)	Take Thirty (11) (5) (3)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)	(2)
6:45—Top of the Morning (3)	3:30—Celebrity Cooks (11) (5)
7:00—Canada AM (8)	(3) (2)
8:30—Mon Ami (5)	4:00—Match Game (8)
Price is Right (3)	It's Your Choice (11) (5)
8:45—Friendly Giant (5)	(3) (2)
9:00—Saskatchewan AM (8)	4:30—Beverly Hillbillies (8)
Bingo — Bulletin (5)	Vision On (11) (5) (3)
Teleforum (3)	(2)
9:15—French (11)	5:00—Dick Van Dyke (8)
Good Morning (3)	What's New (11) (2)
Classified Ads (2)	Price is Right (5)
9:30—Yoga (8)	Cartoons (3)
Mon Ami (11) (3)	5:30—My Three Sons (8)
Enjoy Being Beautiful (5)	Room 222 (11) (5) (3)
Schools (2)	Hogan's Heroes (2)
9:45—Friendly Giant (11) (3)	6:00—Indoor Game Highlights (8)
10:00—First Impressions (8)	Laverne and Shirley (11)
Camera 12 (11) (5) (3)	News (5) (3) (2)
(2)	6:30—News (8) (11)
10:30—Pots and Pans (8)	Dick and Julie (5)
Mr. Dressup (11) (5)	Lawrence Welk (3)
(3) (2)	7:00—Grand Old Country (8)
11:00—Joyce Davidson (8)	Charles Angels (2)
Sesame Street (11) (5)	7:30—Sanford and Son (8)
(3) (2)	Welcome Back Kotter (11) (5) (3)
11:30—Jim McCrory (8)	(11) (5) (3)
12:00—Flintstones (8)	8:00—Movie (8)
Coronation Street (11)	Carol Burnett (11) (5)
Junction (5)	(3) (2)
Midday (3)	9:00—Watson Report (11) (2)
Bob McLean (2)	Baretta (5)
12:30—News — Farming (8)	Movie (3)
Noon Show (11)	9:30—Maclear (8)
1:00—Emergency (8)	Teleplay (11)
Bob McLean (11)	Good News (2)
Young and Restless (5)	10:00—Delvecchio (8)
Bluff (3)	Upstairs, Downstairs (11) (2)
Death Valley Days (2)	Rich Man — Poor Man (5)
1:30—Party Game (5)	11:00—National News (8) (11)
Diane Stapley (3)	(5) (3) (2)
Film (2)	11:20—Local News (8) (11) (5)
2:00—Al Hamel (8)	(3) (2)
All in the Family (11)	11:35—Ninety Minutes (11)
(2)	11:40—Movie (3) (2)
Coffee Break (5)	11:45—Indoor Games (8)
2:30—Edge of Night (11) (5)	Mike Douglas (5)
(3) (2)	12:00—Odd Couple (8)
3:00—Another World (8)	12:30—Merv Griffin (8)

Friday, December 31

6:00—University of the Air (8)	3:30—Celebrity Cooks (11) (5)
6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8)	(3) (2)
6:45—Top of the Morning (3)	4:00—Match Game (8)
7:00—Canada AM (8)	It's Your Choice (11) (5)
8:30—Mon Ami (5)	(3) (2)
Price is Right (3)	4:30—Beverly Hillbillies (8)
8:45—Friendly Giant (5)	Children's Special (11)
9:00—Saskatchewan AM (8)	(5) (2)
Bingo — Bulletin (5)	Pencil Box (3)
Teleforum (3)	5:00—Dick Van Dyke (8)
9:15—French (11)	Friday After School (11)
Good Morning (3)	(2)
Classified Ads (2)	Price is Right (5)
9:30—Yoga (8)	Flipper (3)
Enjoy Being Beautiful (5)	5:30—News (8)
Mon Ami (11) (3) (2)	Room 222 (11) (5) (3)
9:45—Friendly Giant (11) (3)	Hogan's Heroes (2)
(2)	6:00—Definition (8)
10:00—First Impressions (8)	Sirota's Court (11)
Camera 12 (11) (5) (3)	News (5) (3) (2)
(2)	6:30—My Three Sons (8)
10:30—Pots and Pans (8)	News (11)
Mr. Dressup (11) (5)	Pre-Teen Talent (5)
(3) (2)	Profile (3)
11:00—Joyce Davidson (8)	7:00—Stars on Ice (8)
Sesame Street (11) (5)	Love American Style (11)
(3) (2)	Most Wanted (5)
11:30—Jim McCrory (8)	Spencer's Pilots (3)
12:00—Flintstones (8)	Talent Show (2)
Coronation Street (11)	7:30—Diane Stapley (11)
Junction (5)	Reach for the Top (2)
Midday (3)	8:00—Donny and Marie (8)
Bob McLean (2)	Mary Tyler Moore (11)
12:30—News — Farming (8)	(5) (3) (2)
Noon Show (11)	8:30—Chico and the Man (11)
1:00—Indoor Games Review (8)	(5) (3) (2)
Bob McLean (11)	9:00—The Provincial (8)
Young and Restless (5)	Tommy Hunter (11) (5)
Mike Douglas (3)	(3) (2)
Alberta File (2)	10:00—Serpico (8)
1:30—Party Game (5)	Police Story (11) (5)
Film (2)	(3) (2)
2:00—Al Hamel (8)	11:00—National News (8) (11)
All in the Family (11)	(5) (3) (2)
(2)	11:20—Local News (8) (11) (5)
Coffee break (5)	(3) (2)
2:30—The Edge of Night (11)	11:35—Ninety Minutes (11)
(5) (3) (2)	11:40—Movie (3) (2)
3:00—Another World (8)	11:45—Movie (8)
Take Thirty (11) (5) (3)	Lawrence Welk (5)
(2)	12:45—Movie (5)
	1:00—Quest (11)

mas
town Plaza

Throughout this Christmas Season may you find new joys, renew old friendships and rejoice in happy memories

Week in movies

Friday

4, A Christmas Carol, (drama). Alastair Sim, Kathleen Harrison and Jack Warner. A man is changed by the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future. CFQC.

11:45, Son of Paleface, (comedy). Bob Hope, Jane Russell and Roy Rogers. A man who inherits unclaimed debts decides to marry a wealthy woman. CFQC.

1, Fitzwilly, (drama). Dick Van Dyke, Barbara Feldon and Dame Edith Evans. An elderly woman lives in luxury, unaware that she is penniless and her faithful servants mastermind thefts to keep her cheques from bouncing. CBC.



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Saturday, January 1

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6:00—University of the Air (8) | 3:15—New Year's Greetings (11) (5) (3) |
| 6:30—Saskatchewan AM (8) | 3:30—News (11) (5) |
| 7:00—Romper Room (8) | 3:45—Rose Bowl Game (11) (5) (3) |
| 7:30—Cartoon Playhouse (8) | 5:00—Gilligan's Island (8) |
| 8:00—Uncle Bobby (8) | 5:30—Show Biz (8) Film (2) |
| 8:30—Let's Go (8) | 6:00—Odd Couple (8) |
| Bonanza (5) | NHL Hockey (2) |
| Peanuts and Popcorn (2) | 6:30—1976 in Review (8) |
| 9:00—Spiderman (8) | Andy (11) (5) |
| French (11) | 7:00—Emergency (8) |
| Unitel (3) | NHL Hockey (11) (5) (3) |
| 9:30—Kidstuff (8) | 8:00—Movie (8) |
| Peanuts and Popcorn (11) | 8:30—Stay Tuned (2) |
| Star Trek (5) | 9:00—FACT (2) |
| Flintstones (3) | 9:30—Overtime (11) (5) |
| Tournament of Roses Parade (2) | Stay Tuned (3) |
| 10:30—Abbott and Costello (8) | On Stage (2) |
| Tournament of Roses Parade (11) (5) (3) | 10:00—Definition (8) |
| 12:00—Willy and Floyd (8) | Star Trek (11) |
| Wolfman Jack (2) | Hee Haw (5) |
| 12:30—Horst Koehler (8) | Hawaii Five-O (3) |
| Sportsyear '76 (2) | That's Entertainment (2) |
| 1:00—Movie (8) | 10:30—All's Fair (8) |
| Batman (11) | Special (2) |
| Willie and Floyd (5) | 11:00—National News (8) (11) (5) (3) (2) |
| Gilligan's Island (3) | 11:15—In Concert (11) |
| 1:30—Sportsyear '76 (11) (5) (3) | 11:20—Local News (8) (3) (2) |
| 2:00—Film (2) | Movie (5) |
| 2:15—New Year's Greeting (2) | 11:40—Movie (3) (2) |
| 2:30—Film (2) | 11:45—Movie (8) |
| 2:45—Rose Bowl Game (2) | 12:15—Movie (11) |
| 3:00—Wide World of Sports (8) | |
| T.B.A. (5) | |
| News (3) | |

Saturday

10:30, One Night in the Tropics, (comedy). Abbott and Costello, Nancy Kelly and Robert Cummings. Abbott and Costello protect a nightclub operator's interest when the man underwrites a policy. CFQC.

7, Oliver, (musical-drama). Ron Moody, Oliver Reed, Harry Secombe and Shani Wallis. A young orphan joins a group of pickpockets and when caught is taken in by a wealthy benefactor. CTV.

11:45, Cold Turkey, (comedy). Dick Van Dyke, Pippa Scott, Tom Poston and Bob Newhart. Eagle Rock, Iowa, in danger of extinction, takes a challenge to give up smoking for one month and win \$25,000. CFQC.

12:30, Julius Caesar, (drama). Charlton Heston, John Gielgud and Jason Robards. Shakespeare's classic historical drama of political intrigue, corruption and conspiratorial cunning. CBC.

Sunday

2:30, Pigskin Parade, (musical-comedy). Betty Grable, Judy Garland and Stuart Erwin. A backwoods college football team is scheduled to play an ivy-league school so they enroll a hillbilly melon-thrower as the star quarterback. CFQC.

12:15, Living It Up, (musical-comedy). Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis, Janet Leigh and Edward Arnold. A railroad attendant, whose sinus trouble is diagnosed as radiation, receives an all expense paid fling in New York. CFQC.

Thursday

8, McMillan: Dark Sunrise, (mystery). Rock Hudson, John Schuck, Karen Valentine, Richard Lenz and Julie Adams. Mac is presumed killed when his apartment is bombed and two bodies are recovered. CTV.

Friday

11:45, It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World, (comedy). Spencer Tracy, Milton Berle, Sid Caesar, Buddy Hackett, Ethel Merman, Dick Shawn and Mickey Rooney. Four motorists, after finding out the whereabouts of \$350,000, start a mad scramble across mountains and deserts to find the treasure first. CFQC.

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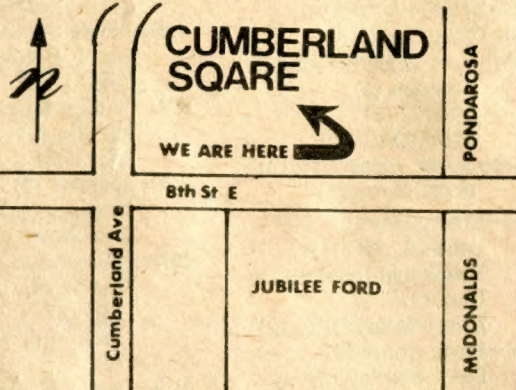
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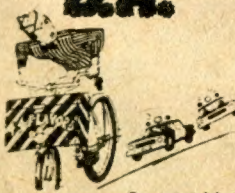
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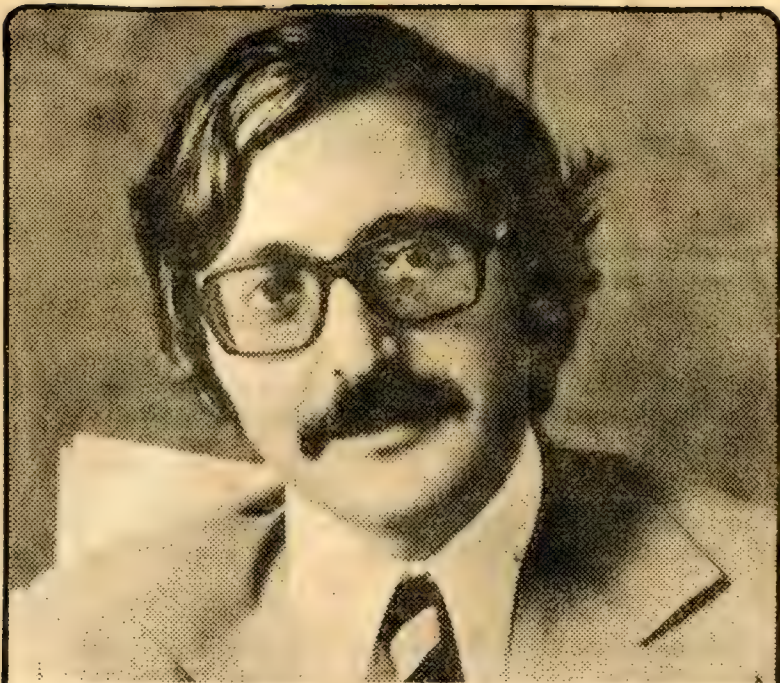
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CBC-TV's Ombudsman Robert Cooper has a few secrets about his past.

Breaking secrecy of government Cooper's cause

By Sid Adilman

(c) 1976 Toronto Star Syndicate

For the two years Montreal crime-busting lawyer Robert Cooper has been CBC-TV's Ombudsman his most passionate crusade has been to break through government secrecy.

Now it turns out that 32-year old Cooper has some dandy secrets of his own.

In 1964, he began research for what must be Canada's only university masters thesis on The Beatles. It was completed, along with his law degree, in 1968.

Coming from a show business family — his father Roy Cooper is an active Montreal talent booker — he was a semi-professional magician for 10 years, performing at private parties and various functions throughout Montreal.

His brother Steve Cooper is the New York talent agent who turned down the chance at the last minute to become O'Keefe Centre's general manager.

"For the masters thesis is sociology, I analyzed the words to all The Beatles' songs and compared them to the words of hit parade songs of the mid-50's. I discovered that the words to the songs before The Beatles and their own words virtually all involved love relationships. It was like a play about love. With one key difference," he said.

"You could group them this way: the prologue with songs of anticipation, act 1, songs of courtship, sentimentality and desperate approach, act 2, songs about the honeymoon (It's Been A Hard Day's Night), act 3, songs about the downward course of love (Unchained Melody, for example), and act 4, songs about being all alone again.

"However, The Beatles had fewer songs about being all alone. In their songs, they went out a lot, fell in love, got together and broke up. But in the end they never were alone. The main thing their songs in this group said was, 'You've got your friends. You're always in a group.' That theme came up again and again."

As part of this thesis, he interviewed Beatles fanatics in Montreal and discovered the most ardent of them came from strict families. "Girls who had a lot of friends in their own sex but dated infrequently because their parents did not allow them to."

Once the thesis was completed, an article based on his work was published in Maclean's in 1967 and he lectured on The Beatles at McGill.

His interest in the subject came in part, he says, "because it was the rage at the time, and because of my family background, and because I had two ties: a father who pulled me gently in one way and a mother who just as gently pulled me in another. She said medicine but I couldn't stand blood. So I went into law." And with high standings in virtually all of his classes.

"I came in here (CBC) through the back door. I didn't make any application. I was the lawyer for the Quebec Commission into organized crime (a job he just dropped this summer), and executive producer William Harcourt saw me being interviewed."

Prior to that, he had established Canada's first full-time storefront legal service, operated in conjunction with the McGill law faculty, and had been a special adviser to Quebec Justice Minister Jerome Choquette.

"It was my biggest commitment over this past summer. I gave up my active law practice and I moved my family to Toronto and decided not to be a part-time CBC person. Objectively, I gave up a lot. I took all the risks. There was no assurance from CBC whether we'll be renewed next season."

"People are trying to solve their own problems because the legal system is too expensive, too cumbersome and involves too many risks," he says.

Merry Christmas

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CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Friday, Dec. 24th

- 12 noon "The Story Of The Carol"
- 4:30 p.m. "Miguels Navdad" Children's Special
- 6:00 p.m. Saskatoon Children's Choirs
- 7:00 p.m. "Defasco Festival Of Christmas Carols"
- 9:00 p.m. Tommy Hunter Country "Christmas Special"
- 11:35 Christmas Eve Church Service
- 1:00 a.m. TV 11 Christmas Eve Movie "Fitzwilly", starring Dick Van Dyke & Barbara Feldon

Saturday, Dec. 25th

- 12 noon A Christmas Story
- 2:00 p.m. Queen's Christmas Message and King's College Choir.
- 2:30 p.m. "Robinson Crusoe" Family Christmas Special
- 6:30 p.m. "The Tiny Tree"
- 7:00 p.m. "Where There's A Will, There's Ted Ohlsen's Way"
- 7:30 p.m. "Celebration" — Christmas.
- 8:30 p.m. "World Championship Circus" — Family Special
- 10:00 p.m. "Noel"
- 11:15 p.m. Queen's Christmas Message (repeat)
- 11:22 p.m. Vikki Carr — "In Concert"
- 12:22 a.m. TV 11 Saturday Night Movie "Julius Caesar" starring Charlton Heston & Jason Robards

Sunday, Dec. 26th

- 11:00 a.m. Meeting Place — Christmas Special
- 6:00 p.m. Wonderful World Of Disney "Babes In Toyland" (part 2)

Monday, Dec. 27th

- 7:00 p.m. St. Demetrious Greek Orthodox "Christmas Carol" Special
- 7:30 p.m. Salvation Army "Festival Of Christmas Songs"

Tuesday, Dec. 28th

- 9:30 p.m. CBC — "Year End Review"

TV11
SASKATOON



JOYEUX NOEL

Ask Stacy: Roddy McDowall's face insured? Did Gable 'shake up' film lovers?

(c) 1976 New York Times Syndicate

Readers are invited to ask Stacy about their favorite TV and movie stars.

Dear Stacy,

My story sounds ridiculous, but I need to check it out to see just how much my friends are trying to fool me. They say when Roddy McDowall was in Planet of the Apes, a \$1 million insurance policy was taken out on his face because they were afraid his ape mask would hurt his skin. I'm not falling for it! Can you prove I'm right so I can win \$5 from each of them?

L.R.

Dear L.R.,

I hope you didn't bet too many people. Ridiculous as it sounds, the story is true. It was when Roddy was making the TV version of Planet of the Apes two years ago. And his contract stipulated that he would have to be given every third day off to give his face the oxygen it required.

Dear Stacy,

I read that Clark Gable used to cut up sometimes during filming of romantic scenes by flipping out his dentures. Is that true? Do you know of any other stars who've done things to "shake up" their romantic screen partners?

Leslie R.

Dear Leslie,

The Gable dentures story has been a filmland legend for years, just like the stories that John Barrymore always ate scallions before shooting love scenes with actresses he wasn't crazy about. Then there are legends of Carole Lombard, who supposedly delighted in shocking romantic costars by whispering spicy language into their ears. Stories of actresses and actors who'd turn one face to the camera and another to a disliked co-star have been popping up for years, but in most cases only two people know for sure if they're true.

Dear Stacy,

What has Vera Miles been doing lately? We're great fans and haven't seen her in more than a year — anywhere. She hasn't retired, has she?

Don and Marian

Dear Don and Marian,

No. The actress known mainly for her film supporting performances in such films as Psycho and So Big is currently shooting Irwin Allen's production of Fire in Oregon. She completed her Thoroughbreds role for Pan American films in November.

Dear Stacy,

My mom told me Edmund Gwenn, the actor who played Santa Claus in Miracle on 34th Street had a really hard time getting other roles after he completed that part. Is it true? Talk about typecasting!

Michael

Dear Michael,

The 23 movies he did after Miracle on 34th Street would seem to dispute that — even though Gwenn will always be remembered for his Academy Award winning role as Santa.

Dear Stacy,

I'm a big fan of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers movies. One thing I've noticed is there really aren't any of the long, long love scenes there are in other movies. Am I right? Why was that?

M.J.

Dear M.J.,

Fred says they did make it a point not to have love scenes. "We just moved affectionately," he says — and "you can just assume what happens." Although Fred is embarrassed by suggestions their dances were "sexy" — they still stand out as being far more so than a lot of the more blatant variety of love scenes depicted today.

Dear Stacy,

Why is Bing Crosby taking his wife and younger children on stage with him in his new Broadway show? Are his kids hot on acting careers?

Jerry

Dear Jerry,

"Mary Frances is the only one who is really intent on a show business career," says Bing's wife Kathy of their 16-year-old daughter. As far as sons Harry and Nathaniel, 17 and 15: "They're just so-so about it." The reason for the family performances, she says, is: "We're a close-knit family and believe in doing everything together."

Hee Haw caters to man's basic need to laugh

By Andee Beck

(c) 1976 New York Times Special Features

How can the corniest program on TV become the top-rated show in national syndication?

The cast and crew of Hee Haw believe their show's success is due to a basic need of humankind: laughter.

Hee Haw executive producer John Aylesworth is further convinced: "This public wants a release from the network comedies that this past season based their humor on tragedy."

He points out Good Times lost its father in a tragic death, Maude's husband tried to commit suicide, Rhoda split from her husband, and One Day at a Time devoted several episodes to runaway teenagers.

"People want a release from all that black comedy," Aylesworth analyses. "They just want to be entertained. That's what we give them, no messages, just a happy show."

What Aylesworth calls a happy show, Hee Haw co-star Don Harron terms, "Sesame Street for Farmers. It's bubblegum for the eyes."

"We're the only program that hasn't gone soap operaish." And unlike many primetime network shows, says Harron. "The public knows we're just going to give them lots of laughter."

"Laughing is great medicine," theorizes Hee Haw co-star and staff writer Gordie Tapp. "When CBS canceled our show along with other rural comedies in 1969, the high ratings of the program indicated they were what the people wanted to watch. I believe they still do."

"Anyway, if you don't like a joke on our show, 30 seconds later there's bound to be another you do like."

Wile producer Aylesworth says the growing success of Hee Haw is because, "people are learning more and more that country music isn't as bad as they thought," it turns out humor works more in the program's favor.

The producer's refined formula undoubtedly aids them in grabbing an average audience of 30 million viewers per weekly episode. But Hee Haw producer San Lovullo provides a different analysis for the popularity of the show. He contends pleasing the audience relies



Cast and crew of Hee Haw cater to man's need to laugh.

heavily on the happiness of the Hee Haw cast and crew.

Indeed, it is a production which is more relaxed and mellow than anything to be found in Hollywood. The 26 episodes are taped in two three-week intervals in Nashville. Stars enjoy the short production period, the good pay, and the informality of a small crew.

Says Lovullo, former CBS business affairs executive and associate producer of the 1967 Jonathan Winters Show: "I remember the days at CBS when you had to go through several departments any time you needed just a small task accomplished. It was often difficult to get anything done."

"Unlike the big studios in L.A., we have no associate producers or huge crews in charge of sets and wardrobe. We want a set, we have a couple stagehands build us one. And like the old days, we

paint the floors each night instead of laying down expensive tiles.

"When George Lindsey wanted some funny hats as part of his costume, he felt free to go out and buy what he wanted and gave us a bill. That's something no performer would be inclined to do on another show."

Best of all, Lovullo emphasizes: "When our performers are finished with their work, they are handed their checks as they walk out the door."

Such a policy is one of the most alluring attractions for the Hee Haw cast.

For Country and Western King Buck Owens, the added Hee Haw income allows him to pick and choose network television and motion picture assignments.

And while it gives him continual public exposure, he has the chance to rest four months at a time, "because if you don't

get off the train every so often, you can't see where you've been."

For Canadians Don Harron and Gordie Tapp, the money they make for six weeks Hee Haw work comes close to what they earn the rest of the year back home in Toronto.

For Harron, his perpetuation of the Charlie Farquharson character he created 25 years ago has enabled him to cash in with the best-selling book, Charlie Farquharson's History of Canada, the recently released Charlie Farquharson's K.O.R.N. Almynack, and a Farquharson Christmas album.

The broad TV exposure has been a boost to the careers of many on the show. Hee Haw fame and near-fortune have come to such cast members as farmer and elementary school dropout Junior Samples; C&W banjo-picking star Louis "Grandpa Jones" Marshall; beauties Misty Rowe, Barbi Benton, Gunilla Hutton, Marianne Gordon and Lisa Todd; former heavyweight stripper Lulu Roman; and blacklisted John Henry Faulk, whose historic trial was featured in the 1975 Fear on Trial TV special.

All are not without gripes, however. As Country and Western superstar Roy Clark's fame has soared, so has his income, which has placed him in such a high living standard that it continually requires more money to live and work. A higher salary and constant traveling require his owning a private plane, plus the employment of people to manage his career, radio stations, and publishing company.

For George Lindsey, the perpetuation of his Andy of Mayberry Goober character further prevents him from escaping identification with the role, and from finding unrelated roles in other areas of show business.

For Tapp, who has been tagged Canada's Ambassador of Entertainment because of his international touring for the Canadian government to entertain troops, he finds his role on Hee Haw limiting.

But when all's said and done, ask the cast if they're happy being part of the show, and the complaints will suddenly subside. As corny as it may be, they return with a unanimous response: "Couldn't be happier!"

Green thumb

By Joe Zary

Zary is a Saskatoon horticulturist

A couple of weeks ago we suggested a double ended "Widger" would make a nice gift for a gardening friend. We have had more phone calls about this simple tool! What is it? What does it look like? Does it cost much? Where can I buy one?

Answering the last question first, if your local gardening shop doesn't have one, they are advertised in the C.A. Cruikshank catalogue, 1015 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto 12, Ontario at a price of \$1.25 for a stainless steel one.

A widger is six to eight inches long, made of wood or steel with one flattened and one round end. The flattened end is for loosening soil or pricking out seedlings and the rounded end is for making the holes in the soil when planting the seedlings. It is one of the handiest tools for transplanting time and useful for the houseplant lover who likes to cultivate the soil in flower pots. Once you own one, you will wonder how you ever got along without this splendid aid — besides saving bent spoon handles and crooked tines on the forks.

Some of the department stores have been selling Norfolk Island pines. Could they be competition for Christmas trees?

The plant was discovered growing on Norfolk Island, near New Zealand. On its native island it becomes a tree reputed to grow to 200 feet and as much as 10 feet in diameter.

In its early youth, the Norfolk Island pine is quite graceful with its feathery green branches. It is doubtful many will survive in our modern homes. Forty years ago it was quite a common houseplant but with the advent of central heating it became too difficult to grow.

The Norfolk Island pine prefers an east or west exposure, even a north window with good unobstructed light will do. The soil should be kept constantly moist. The critical point about it is that it must have cool temperatures during the winter. These temperatures should be in the range of 10 to 12 degrees C. Constant higher temperatures will soon affect the plant and most of our houses are just too warm. If you have a greenhouse or sun room and run it on the cool side, your Norfolk Island pine may survive for quite a number of years. In the summer it should be plunged into the garden, preferably in a spot where it will get filtered sunshine.

This interesting conifer is grown extensively in Hawaii for the Christmas tree trade. It has been used in Hawaii for years for Christmas and is known there as star pine because of the formation of the branches. They are sold in fiber pots so the Christmas trees live on until they have grown too large for this purpose, they then are planted in the garden.

How are the forcing bulbs coming along? Be sure to provide them with adequate moisture. If they have been forced into bloom for Christmas to make the flowers last put them into a cool spot each night. The basement floor, well away from all sources of heat would be best. When they are on show keep them off the TV and well away from warm air registers. This advice holds true for daffodils, tulips, hyacinths and any other bulbs that have been forced.

We are often asked if the bulbs can be saved and planted outside in the garden come spring. Most of the bulbs have been treated so they can be forced and seldom produce worthwhile blooms if planted out in the garden so unless you wish to experiment it is suggested you discard them.

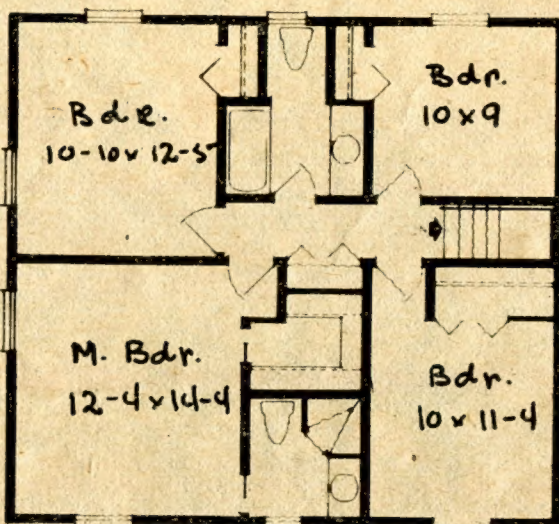
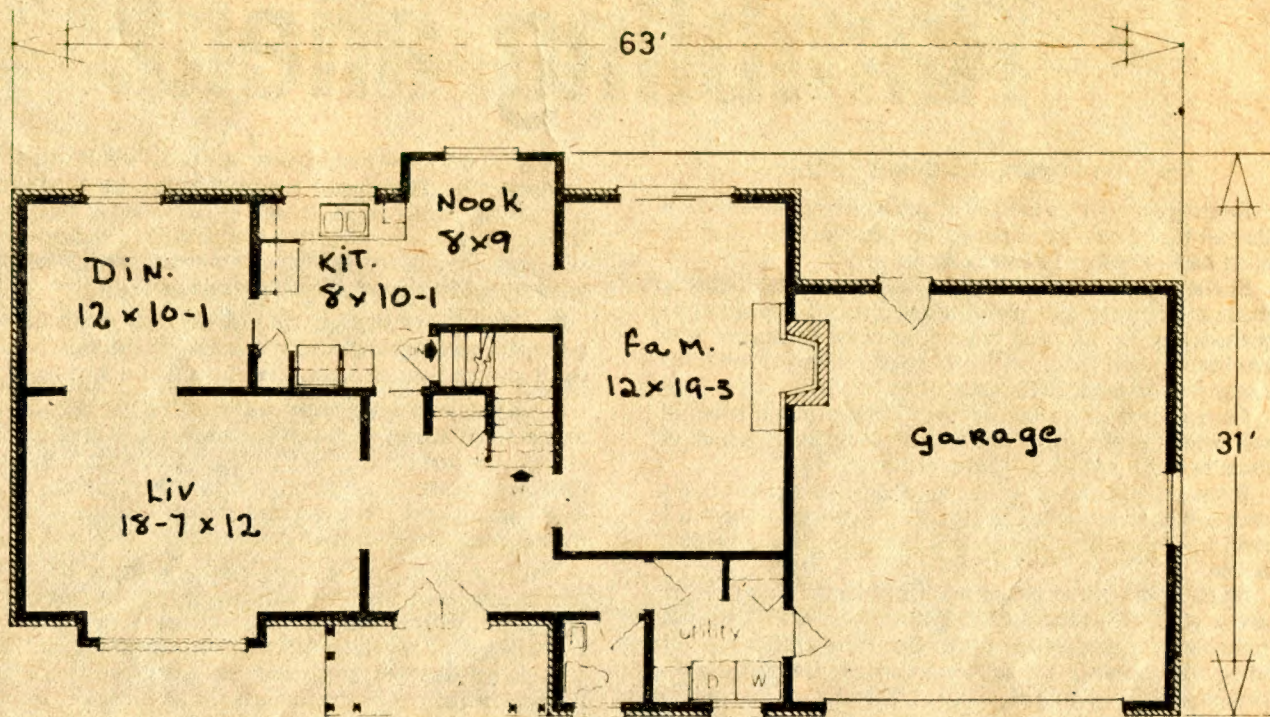
While checking the flowering bulbs take a few moments and check over the dahlias and cannas. If the roots are shrivelling, sprinkle a little water on them. Take care not to overdo this because there is a danger of mold forming.

Tuberous begonias should be checked over. Any showing signs of disease should be discarded. If the tubers appear to be shrivelling, a light sprinkling with water should correct the situation.

Gladiolus corms should also be examined. If they appear to be shrivelling increase the humidity slightly in the storage room.

We have received a number of Christmas cards from readers of this column.

Merry Christmas to all.



Main Floor

Living area: 752 sq. ft.
Family area: 255 sq. ft.
Utility: 109 sq. ft.

Upper Floor

Area: 840 sq. ft.

PLAN N° 65-1956
WIDTH: 63 ft.



Home of the week

An extension of the roof, from the garage area, creates a sheltered front entrance and adds charm and character to this two storey contemporary home. Double panelled front doors open to a spacious foyer containing a guest closet and the stairway to the second floor.

The big convenience feature of this efficient floor plan is, directly to the right of the front entrance, the guest powder room immediately adjoining utility-mud room with storage and closets, directly accessible to the garage and outside.

Also cutting down on the children's complete trek through the house is the door, off the front foyer, to the family room.

The family room has the charm of an open fireplace, sliding glass doors to a patio and direct access to the nook-kitchen.

From the kitchen area is a door for the stairway to the complete unfinished basement and there is plenty of room here for family room expansion.

The luxurious master bedroom has a huge walk-in closet and a three piece ensuite bedroom. The remaining three bedrooms are serviced by a full-size, vanity bathroom.

Exterior finish is of contrasting siding and red brick veneer, accented with shutters and a large bay window, giving this home that traditional feeling.

Plans for design No. 65-1956 may be obtained at the cost of \$65 for the first set and \$8 for each additional set, plus \$3 postage and handling.

To view more than 300 quality homes of every type send for the current edition of Select Home Designs Series No. 32, available for \$2 (\$1.75 plus 25 cents postage and handling).

To order these items please send cheque or money order payable to Home of the Week. Address your orders to Home of the Week, care of the Star-Phoenix, 382 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 1R2.

(c) 1976 Select Home Designs

Rambling afield: Snowmobilers' image tarnished

By Tom Loran, Outdoors Editor

Keeping in mind the amount of guff which emanated from the last time I mentioned power toboggans in this column, I don't know whether I dare try again.

Earlier, word came out about at least some attempt being made to accommodate power toboggans and I spoke sympathetically for the poor, beleaguered snow enthusiast who has been roused from the city, from all roadways and from many private lands in the country.

I knew some hot-rodders on the machines had created ill will among some people, but it has become obvious a lot of them have caused a lot of hard feelings.

If snowmobilers even dream of attaining the stature they once had, they had better forget it. At the very best, the way I read it, they will be fortunate if they can fight a holding action.

Mufflers have been put on newer machines. Those, alone, are a giant step ahead, cutting down one of the greatest irritations for non-snow-goers. But there still are a few idiots who remove the mufflers, alleging the accessories reduce power and, therefore, speed. In fact, they are simply pandering to the show-off inclination.

There might be good reason for removing mufflers and lots of other accessories for high-speed racing, but the recreational snowmobiler could not defend that kind of stripping with any reasonable logic.

The second biggest irritation I sense comes from those who believe once they have passed the city limits, the land is theirs. They whip across fields, through bushes, under, over and through fences and even cross farmyards — all without the permission of the owner or even the least amount of consideration for him.

Those are the two biggest complaints against operators of the machines. If everyone who enjoys the snow sleds would simply use common sense and common courtesy, those complaints would end.

Beyond that, there are the complaints associated with the machines themselves — destruction of vegetation, disruption of wildlife, accessibility to previously difficult-to-reach country and the like. There is little that can be done about those objections and, I am convinced, there should not be.

Snowmobilers should have as much right to the outdoors as other users, whether they are on trail bikes, horses, skis or on foot. Used properly, they are a legitimate pleasure machine, giving whole families hours and hours of good healthy fun.

The skiing group can argue all they like about the growth in interest of their recreation. But power toboggans have done more than any other thing to increase family enjoyment of winter outdoors.

Anyhow, I opened the subject of the little machines once more because I came across an historical note which relates to them.

The Melfort Journal Advance earlier this month reported a former Gronlid resident patented the first snowmobile away back in 1922.

John Wachniak, now 80 and living in Winnipeg, made his own motor driven sled when he was having difficulty getting around with a team of horses.

Using a 10-horsepower engine and tinkering in his blacksmith shop, he came up with a motor sleigh which could reach 10 miles an hour and handle snow conditions the horses got stuck in.

Wachniak said his neighbors found his invention interesting but were not particularly excited about it. However, a local priest, the Rev. John Fedna, was and talked Wachniak into taking out a patent.

But the cost of going into production was prohibitive and nothing further was done.

Then about 15 years later, the first commercially-made snowmobiles edged onto the market. Still a far cry from the power toboggan of today, they were fully-enclosed, wide-tracked machines put out by Bombardier.

Today, the big enclosed machines are used almost exclusively by commercial outfits for moving large numbers of people or equipment in the north. But the smaller version, the power toboggan, is in millions of yards across North America.

And Wachniak, the man who apparently first thought of it, sees them buzzing around and knows he never made a penny on them.

A change in subject . . . I hope those who received a game bird questionnaire will consider carefully before filling it out.

A lot of the questions seek simple information on your hunting habits, success and findings in the field.

But a few might be considered loaded regardless of whether they were intended that way.

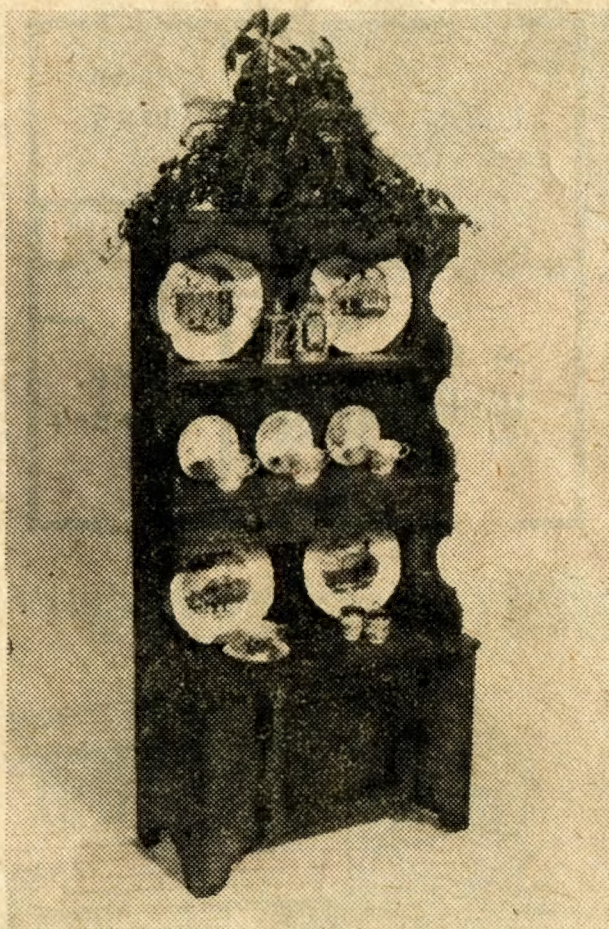
One seeks an assessment of your hunting costs this year, including pit digging and gifts to landowners. If too many have expenses in those two realms, someone might get ideas, thoughts which are foreign to the openness which has been traditional in Saskatchewan.

The next asks how much money one could sell his hunting equipment for. That, to me, is a meaningless question and I wonder why it was asked. If there is any value to anyone in knowing such information, then the question should be either how much one paid for his equipment or what its replacement value is, not how much it could be sold for.

But it is the next question which concerns me most of all. It asks how much hunting costs would have to increase before you'd give up hunting. How's that for a loaded question?

If you put down a figure, some bureaucrat can decide that means you'd accept increased licence fees, a charge for use of land, new taxes or anything he might dream up. If you put down no increase, you're saying if licence fees do go up, you'll stop hunting and game managers could work out future management procedures on that basis.

The fact is, of course, people will accept a moderate increase in costs because they have no choice. They will accept a moderate increase if the money is being used to improve game population through improved habitat. But they do not like increased costs and don't look forward to paying them any more than anyone else for any other service or recreation.



U-bild

Readers are really the ones who designed this project.

It is a country-style cabinet that will go with almost any style of home furniture and can be used in the living room, dining room or den. This hutch is almost 5 feet tall and 2½ feet wide.

Shelves are designed to show off fancy dinnerware and knickknacks, with space for linen and silver.

The project is so simple anyone, even the most inexperienced amateur, can build it. Materials are standard, readily available at any lumberyard. It should not take more than three or four evenings to complete, when full-sized pattern is used. Trace parts on wood, saw out and assemble.

To obtain the full-size Country Hutch Pattern 141, send \$2 (add .25 extra per pattern for airmail delivery) by cheque or money order to:

U-bild
4630 St. Catherine St.
Montreal 215, Que.
M5C 2H1

Make money orders or cheques payable to U-bild

- ☐ I am enclosing .. in cheque or money order for each pattern ..
☐ I am enclosing \$1 for the catalogue illustrating more than 400 other U-bild patterns.

Name

Address

City or town

Chess

By H. Mather

Grandmaster Abe Yanofsky who recently played a simultaneous match in Saskatoon, sent in some of his games played at the chess olympics at Haifa. The following game was played against J. Negro of Monaco; and the brief annotations following the game were also sent in by Yanofsky.

Yanofsky (white), Negro (black).

Pirc Defence.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Pe4 . . . Pg6 | 16. Pe5 . . . N38(note) |
| 2. Pd4 . . . Bg7 | 17. Qf2 . . . Rxc3 |
| 3. Nc3 . . . Pd6 | 18. bxc3 . . . Qxc3 |
| 4. Nf3 . . . Nf6 | 19. Bd4 . . . Qc7 |
| 5. Be2 . . . 0-0 | 20. R(a)el . . . Be6 |
| 6. 0-0 . . . Pc5 | 21. Qd2 . . . Bc4 |
| 7. Ph3 (note) . . . cxd4 | 22. Rf2 . . . d5 |
| 8. Nxd4 . . . Nc6 | 23. Qb4 . . . Bh6 |
| 9. Be3 . . . Bd7 | 24. Bg4 . . . Ng7 |
| 10. Nb3 . . . Pa6 | 25. Pf5 . . . gxf5 |
| 11. Pf4 . . . Pb5 | 26. Bxf5 . . . Pe6 |
| 12. Pa3 . . . Qc7 | 27. Bg4 . . . Bg5 |
| 13. Bf3 . . . R(a)c8 | 28. Qc3 . . . Ph5 |
| 14. Qd2 . . . Na5 | 29. Bd1 . . . Qe7 |
| 15. Nxa5 . . . Qxa5 | 30. Pg3 . . . Bc1 |

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 31. Bxh5 . . . Bxa3 | 37. Bf2 . . . Be4 |
| 32. Qf3 . . . Pb4 | 38. Bxf7 . . . Qc3 |
| 33. Qg4 . . . Kh8 | 39. Rxe4 . . . Rxf7 |
| 34. Rf6 . . . Pb3 | 40. Rxf7 . . . dxe4 |
| 35. Pxb3 . . . Bd3 | 41. Qd8 and wins. |
| 36. Qd1 . . . Qb4 | |

Note 1: On move 7 white could have continued (7) dxc5, dxc5; (8) QxQ, RxQ; (9) Be3, N(f)d7; (10) Nd5 with an advantage.

Note 2: If (16) . . . dxe5 then (17) fxe5 with the idea of Qd7.

Starting in the second week of January, a three-section tournament will be run on a one day per week basis. The sections are arranged to accommodate players of varying strength, and the evenings of play will be either Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday depending on which evenings are most suitable to the players. Games will be played at the Senior Citizens' Club on Clarence Avenue. Those interested should contact officials at either of the two clubs for further information.

In the problem last week, white wins by leading off with (1) Bf5 attacking the black queen and at the same time opening up the e-file for the rooks. Black can only reply with RxR (ch) and white continues with: (2) QxR, Qd6; (3) Qe8 (ch), Qf8; (4) Bxh7 (ch) and the black queen is lost.

Stamps: Soviets issue Christmas stamp with Santa Claus cancellation

By G. F. Hansen

Hansen is a Winnipeg stamp collector.

This year, even the Soviet Union is commemorating Christmas. On Dec. 25 the U.S.S.R. will issue a special Santa Claus cancellation at the Moscow post office. This postmark will feature Santa Claus waving a holiday greeting and holding an evergreen tree. The inscription on

the postmark, in Cyrillic letters, reads: "Happy New Year, Moscow International General Post Office." In the centre of the design will be a tablet bearing the date, 25-12-76, in the European style of placing the date ahead of the month.

An outfit down in Englewood, Ohio is offering a special service to supply the cancellation in sets to collectors in Canada and the United States and if you are interested

you could write Paramount Philatelics at Englewood, Ohio, 45322. This is a rather de luxe offering, however, with an American price that will bring the costs up to about \$40 here in Canada, so be warned.

According to the publicity blurb which accompanied the offer I received, the present day image of Santa Claus in the U.S. and Canada is primarily attributed to the four Christmas stories by Washington Irving, "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by Clement Moore and 19th century illustrations by Thomas Nast. In Russia there are icons of St. Nicolas in the Kremlin which date back to the 12th century. St. Nicholas was the most popular saint in the world's largest country for hundreds of years.

Nicholas, the real life predecessor of Santa Claus, was a 4th century bishop in Myra, in what is today Turkey. According to legend, he performed miracles, calmed storms at sea and gave bags of gold to three maiden daughters of a poor nobleman. He was later claimed as the patron saint of sailors, maidens and children in most European countries.

The original legend of Nicholas was later enhanced by the northern European folklore of Father Christmas. The traditional Yule log and kissing under the mistletoe emerged from the Father Christmas tales.

Since 1967, Canada has been issuing Christmas stamps regularly and it is now quite possible to build up a quite interesting collection of all the stamps in the various annual issues. Santa Claus has been featured on a few of the stamps issued but it has always been my contention that the stamps of Canada always seemed to honor Christmas as some sort of festive event not necessarily connected with any religious meaning. Only in this year's issue, with its use of stained glass windows, has Canada made some effort to put the Christ in Christmas.

By the way, if you do attempt to gather together a collection of the Christmas stamps of Canada don't forget the Map stamp of 1898 which is, after all, really the first Christmas stamp ever issued.

It seems to me if anyone really wanted to build up an interesting album of Christmas stamps the logical approach would be with Christmas seals. Christmas seals first appeared in tiny Denmark in 1904 and the idea of using these seals on the mail, selling them for a small sum with the proceeds to go to tuberculosis research and treatment, soon was taken up by countries all over the world. On this side of the Atlantic, the idea was first taken up by a small sanatorium on the Brandywine River in Delaware that was about to close because of the lack of \$300. This was in 1907 and the idea was a success over here just as it had been in Europe.

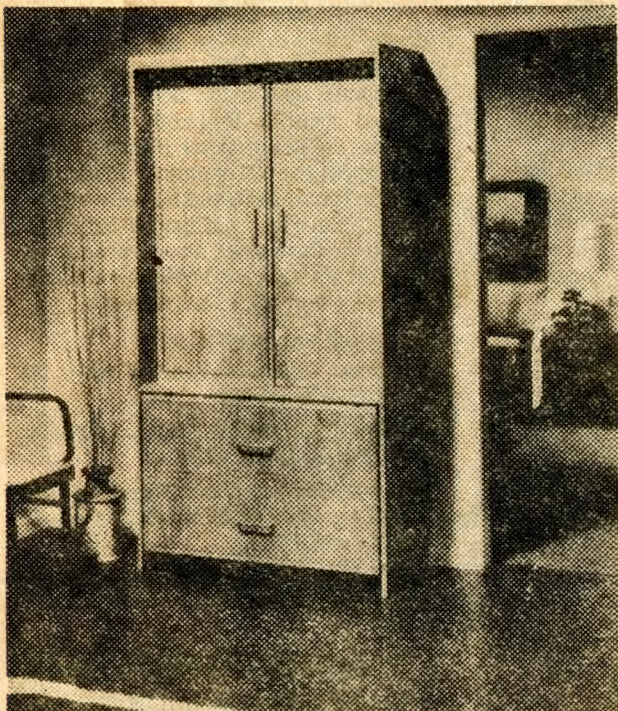
Canada's first Christmas Seal was used by the Muskoka Free Hospital For Consumption in 1909 and by 1927 Christmas Seals were being issued by Canada on a national basis. Despite the low cost of the seals, in the early days this was considered to be a penny apiece, very large sums were quickly realized from their sale. By 1916, more than \$1 million had been raised in this way in the United States alone and by 1943 this had increased to more than \$12.5 million.

In the beginning, Canada used the same design for its seals as that used in the United States. Then in 1931 it began to use its own designs which like the earlier ones were bilingual with a separate issue for French Canadians. Then in 1943 Canada swung back to using designs originating from the United States. In 1951 and later years there was no need for a bilingual approach as the only word appearing on the seals was Canada which, fortunately, is the same in both languages.

In later years, with tuberculosis almost wiped out, seals have been used to raise funds for research and treatment in respiratory diseases and their annual sale continues to not only aid a worthy cause but spread the meaning and joy of Christmas throughout the world. If you are interested in forming a collection of Christmas seals of Canada contact your local offices of the Sanatorium Board. One address I have is Sanatorium Board of Manitoba, 825 Sherbrooke Street, Winnipeg. A few years ago people at this office put me in touch with their national offices where I was able to obtain a number of back issues of seals at very nominal costs. There are a few commercial stamp dealers advertising in such philatelic papers as Linns and The Stamp Collector who specialize in Christmas seals of the world and, for a time, I dealt with one named Wood from the east coast of the United States who supplied me with a number of seals from around the world at quite reasonable prices.

There is a mystery about a seal known to have been issued in Manitoba around 1920. I have seen an illustration of the seal in an old edition of a little booklet produced by the sanatorium at Ninette, Manitoba, but I know of no one who has actually got a copy of this seal. In the single color used in the little brochure it looks quite attractive and features the Manitoba buffalo as well as a holly wreath. I would certainly like to have a copy of this seal for my own collection but would be most happy indeed if I could just find out a little more about it and see an actual copy.

And so it is Christmas once again and I must take this opportunity to wish all my readers a happy, joyous holiday and a coming new year filled with all the good things life can bring.



Deco plans: Cabinet

As versatile as the family room it serves, this contemporary cabinet works several ways. It is a well-equipped sewing area, a craft-and hobby center, game table for children, and planning headquarters.

The action starts when the separate base unit moves out of the framework; hidden casters provide easy mobility. The roll-around cabinet furnishes support for the drop-down work top that doubles as a door on the right side of the cabinet. The two-section work top is fitted with piano hinges so it unfolds

smoothly. A sturdy barrel bolt keeps folded doors closed when they're in upright position. Shelves on left side corral games and craft supplies.

To order the High-Style Cabinet pattern No. 30363, send \$3.00 cheque or money order to:

Deco-Plans
P.O. Box 90
Boucherville, Quebec

Duplicate bridge

By Ken McGuirl

Exactly 13 tables in Monday's game was the perfect movement with 12 top and 156 average game.

Pat Boyle and Rick Boldt finished in first position in the North-South field one board ahead of Elsie Stephenson and Wilma Katzman. Third place went to Ray Miron and Win Goodhew. In the East-West game, Ruth Greenway and Madge Tubby scored a higher difference, 15 points ahead of second place Mike Tyrrell and Ken Paine. Jerry Mamer and K. Carruthers were third.

On Friday we had 13 tables. Cam Partridge and Walter Hoover placed first in the North-South direction with Mary Doupe and Len Racette second and third spot going to Boyle and Boldt. Greenaway and Doris McGuirl were first in the other field, followed by Audrey Norman and Doug Scott, with, Dennis Schneider and Ken McGuirl placing third.

The two-session Swiss teams game on Sunday — always a popular event in Saskatoon — was slightly down in attendance this week with only 14 teams entered. Boldt and Boyle teamed up with Peg Kennedy and Jean Lewes tied for first place with Barry Harper, Gerry Sugarman, Cliff Puskas and Jill Newbold. Each team won six matches to share the master point total. However, if there had been a trophy at stake Boldt would have won it since he defeated the Harper team in play. Goodhew, Miron, Greenaway and Mona Scott placed third.

In Monday's game there seemed to be an unusual number of hands which were complete misfits for the North-South players; board 17 a typical example, nobody vulnerable and North is the dealer.

NORTH
♦ A K J 8 6 4 3
♥ 7 5
♦ K
♠ A K 10

WEST

♦ Q
♥ K 3 2
♦ 10 9 4 3
♠ Q 9 5 3 2

EAST
♦ 10 9 7 2
♥ A
♦ A J 7 6
♠ J 8 6 4

SOUTH
♦ 5
♥ Q J 10 9 8 6 4
♦ Q 8 5 2
♠ 7

When North opens the bidding with one spade the South players took different points of view, should you bid one no trump with a singleton in partners suit and only five points or should you bid two hearts with two queens and a jack even with two black singletons? Played 13 times, this hand was played in spades 12 times, East will lay down the heart ace, then lead a small spade but some Easts will lead a small club and now declarer can ruff his losing club. These North players — three in number — made their game in spades. Most pairs played it in four spades for one down. Reg Jones must have played it better than most. He made one trick more than the others, but unfortunately for him he also bid it one trick higher; he was in five spades. Only one pair, Gladys Stacey and Mildred Dalglish were in the right denomination, they played it in hearts and four hearts cannot be defeated. However, unfortunately for them they got to five so went down one, the same as nearly everybody else.

It is the old story, when partners get into a bidding competition with each other the hand with the quick tricks should surrender to his partner because his hand is of value to partner but partners hand is almost worthless to him.

Here is the classic example. The North hand is of tremendous value to South in hearts but the South hand is of no value to North in spades. Those players who play five card majors and one notrump forcing would probably have the best chance of arriving at the best contract, the bidding would go:

NORTH
1 spade
3 spades
Pass

SOUTH

1 Notrump (forcing)
4 hearts

We have just received word the Canadian Bridge Federation is planning a Canadian championship this year probably in Toronto. For the first time it looks as if we have a sponsor.

Wide selection for young bookworm

By Judy Creighton
CP Family Editor

There is a wide selection for the young bookworm on your list this season. Books are always an appropriate gift for a child and some wise publishers have eased the problems by suggesting suitable age groups for each.

Bill Freeman, who won the 1976 Canada Council Award for Juvenile Literature, has spun a tale of adventure especially for youngsters nine to 13 years of age.

In *The Last Voyage of the Scotian* (James Lorimer, \$3.95), he tells of two teen-agers from Ottawa who have just finished the spring log drive down the Ottawa River in 1873 after a winter working in a lumber camp. They are in Quebec City ready to return to their family when a flashily-dressed man lures them into a trap and forces them to sign on as crew on a square-rigged ship for Jamaica.

It is an exciting and realistic picture of the days of the wooden sailing ships when square riggers from Nova Scotia sailed the world.

Doris Heffron, in her second novel *Crusty Crossed* (Macmillan, \$6.95), traces the spirited adventures of three sisters whose father evacuated them to Canada from England during the early days of the Second World War.

With that last great war being something of a nostalgic journey for many young Canadians now, this is a story of how the girls were shipped from Oxford to the colonies where they learned to skate and sing *The Squid Jiggin' Ground*.

When the Stein children heard the news that they were moving again they were shocked. They loved their house and their friends; now their father, in his seemingly endless pursuit of a bigger store to own, was moving the family to a small town in Alberta.

Lise knew all the children were upset, but she was most worried about her brother Teddy's reaction. He openly showed his resentment of his father and vowed that he would never make another friend.

Instead he decided to lavish all of his attention on the wooden puppets he made in secret. Myra Paperny tells a story of ambition, in the family conflict and above all the healing power of love in *The Wooden People* (Little, Brown, \$6.95).

One of the most delightful new books for younger readers is Fred Gwynne's *A Chocolate Moose for Dinner* (Clarke, Irwin, \$7.95). Gwynne tickles our funny bone with 23 hilarious homonyms and funny full-color illustrations.

For example: "Mommy says she had a chocolate moose for dinner last night." The accompanying illustration shows a little girl dining with a real moose.

Captain Pugwash first set sail over 20 years ago as a strip cartoon in British newspapers. Its creator, John Ryan, has produced another Pugwash tale, *Pugwash and the Sea Monster* (Clarke, Irwin, \$5.95), about the old captain's adventures with Cut-Throat Jake and his ugly crew.

It takes place in an old Spanish fort on an island in the Caribbean. Also involved is an extraordinary sea creature that looks a bit like the Scottish Loch Ness monster.

Other books to look for are:

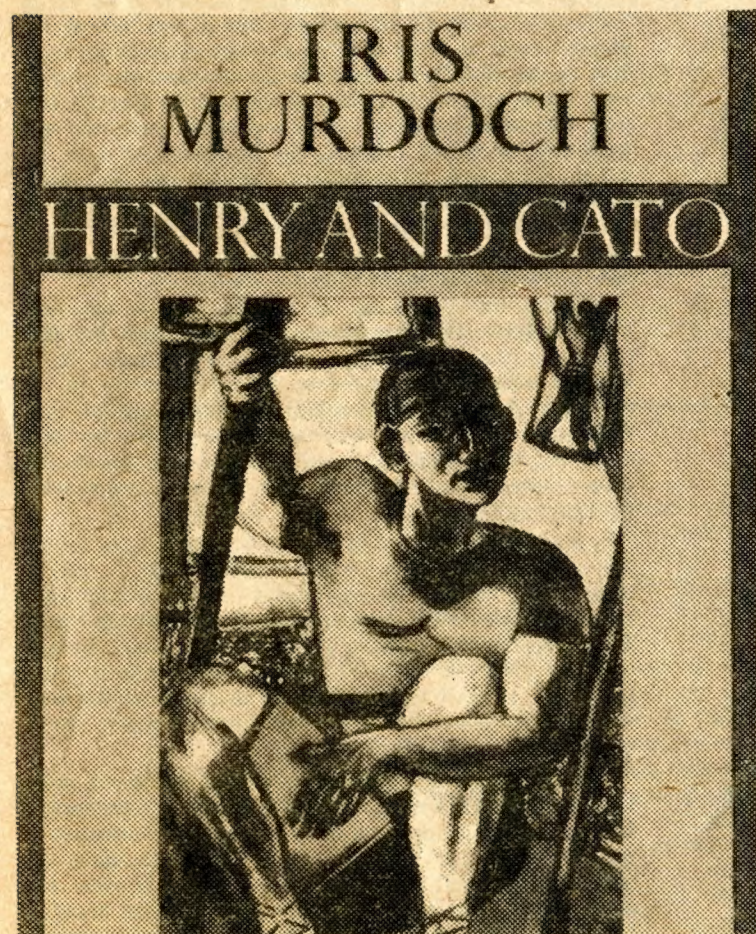
Rima and Zeppo by Susan Jeschke; pp. 15, Clarke, Irwin, \$7.95.

World Of Ghosts by Alan C. Jenkins; pp. 64, Clarke, Irwin, \$7.25.

Bible Stories You Can't Forget by Marshall Efron and Alfa-Betty Olsen; pp. 80, Clarke, Irwin, \$8.35.

I'll Tell On You by Joan Lexau; pp. 25, Clarke, Irwin, \$6.95.

Tangled web of relationships



HENRY AND CATO by Iris Murdoch; pp. 340, Clarke, Irwin and Company, Toronto, 1976, \$9.95

Henry and Cato are two middle-class gentlemen estranged from their families.

Iris Murdoch's latest novel revolves around the tangled relationships between family and friends and her two English heroes, who like most of her heroes, are complicated characters.

Henry has buried himself in a small American university to escape a mother and brother who have never really loved him. Cato has incurred the wrath of his agnostic father by joining the Catholic priesthood. He is involved in a mission in the London slums.

The childhood relationship of the two brothers is rekindled when Henry returns to England after being informed of an unexpected inheritance.

From there it gets complicated. Henry falls out of love with his fortune and in love with the woman he finds in his brother's secret flat. Cato falls out of love with the church and in love with Beautiful Joe, a young delinquent.

Kidnapping, blackmail and mild insanity add suspense and

entertainment to the already tangled web.

The novel tends to drag at first, when Murdoch takes pages to establish all the characters and their various relations. She manages to tie it all together with a few exciting chapters, during which it is impossible to stop reading.

Unfortunately the ending is somewhat of a letdown after all the excitement of the previous chapters.

H.J.R.



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Laurence's prose quick, even

HEART OF A STRANGER by Margaret Laurence; pp. 221, McClelland and Stewart Ltd., Toronto, 1976, \$8.95.

By Bob Wells
of the Canadian Press

In her latest book, *Heart of a Stranger*, author Margaret Laurence offers 19 articles she wrote between 1964 and 1975, and in which she later noticed a record of her own personal development, from her childhood in Manitoba, through her stay in Africa and England, her visits to Egypt and Greece, to her life today in Ontario.

The articles encompass travel, history and autobiography. They are arranged mostly in chronolog-

ical order, leaning later toward concern over Canadian subjects. Their author's search for identity leads her to meet many persons, at home or abroad, directly or through history and legend.

Three pieces appear here for the first time. Two entertaining but historically sensitive articles from 1967 concern travel to Luxor (ancient Thebes) and a cruise along part of the Suez Canal. The other, a rather polished essay written in 1964, is a profile of Mahammed 'Abdille Hasan, a Somali independence fighter at the turn of the century.

Other articles concern life in an English cottage and again in an Ontario cabin; travel in airplanes and in taxis; receiving mail; a

divining contest; and the life of Metis leader Gabriel Dumont. Another article from 1966, on the Highlanders of late 18th-century Scotland, is felt by its author to foreshadow a theme later developed in her *The Diviners*, published in 1974.

Margaret Laurence's prose moves quickly and evenly, her style sharp and enthusiastic but warmly personal and conversational. Even the serious, longer articles read easily, with their balanced, natural development and simple, fresh expression. *Heart of a Stranger* is as informative as it is entertaining, and useful as background for her readers and as an introduction for those unfamiliar with her work.

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